



Gc  
929.2  
B657c  
pt.1  
1149647

M. L.

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01179 8789









Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018





## WILLIAM RAYMOND BOSWORTH

(*Father of the compiler*, MARY BOSWORTH CLARKE)

SON OF STEPHEN STRONG BOSWORTH and wife MARY RAYMOND, born in Chesterfield, Essex county, New York, May 8, 1810; died at Batavia, New York, July 21, 1899, in his ninetieth year.

His father died when William was but seventeen and, being the eldest son in a family of ten children, he had to assist his mother rear and support the family. This gave little opportunity for education, but he was a diligent reader, always keeping abreast of the times, and throughout his long life he counted among his friends men of learning and culture. He was a successful farmer, actively engaging in this occupation until within the last few years of his life.

An elder and deacon of the Presbyterian church of Batavia for over fifty years, he was ever held in high esteem by all who knew him.





Pt. I  
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

# Bosworth Genealogy

---

A History *of the* Descendants *of*  
EDWARD BOSWORTH  
who arrived in America  
in the year  
1634

With an Appendix Containing Other Lines *of*  
American Bosworths

COMPILED BY  
MRS. MARY BOSWORTH CLARKE  
Oakland, California



16 Beale Street, San Francisco, California  
Published 1926

*This copy is*  
*No.*\_\_\_\_\_

# CONTENTS

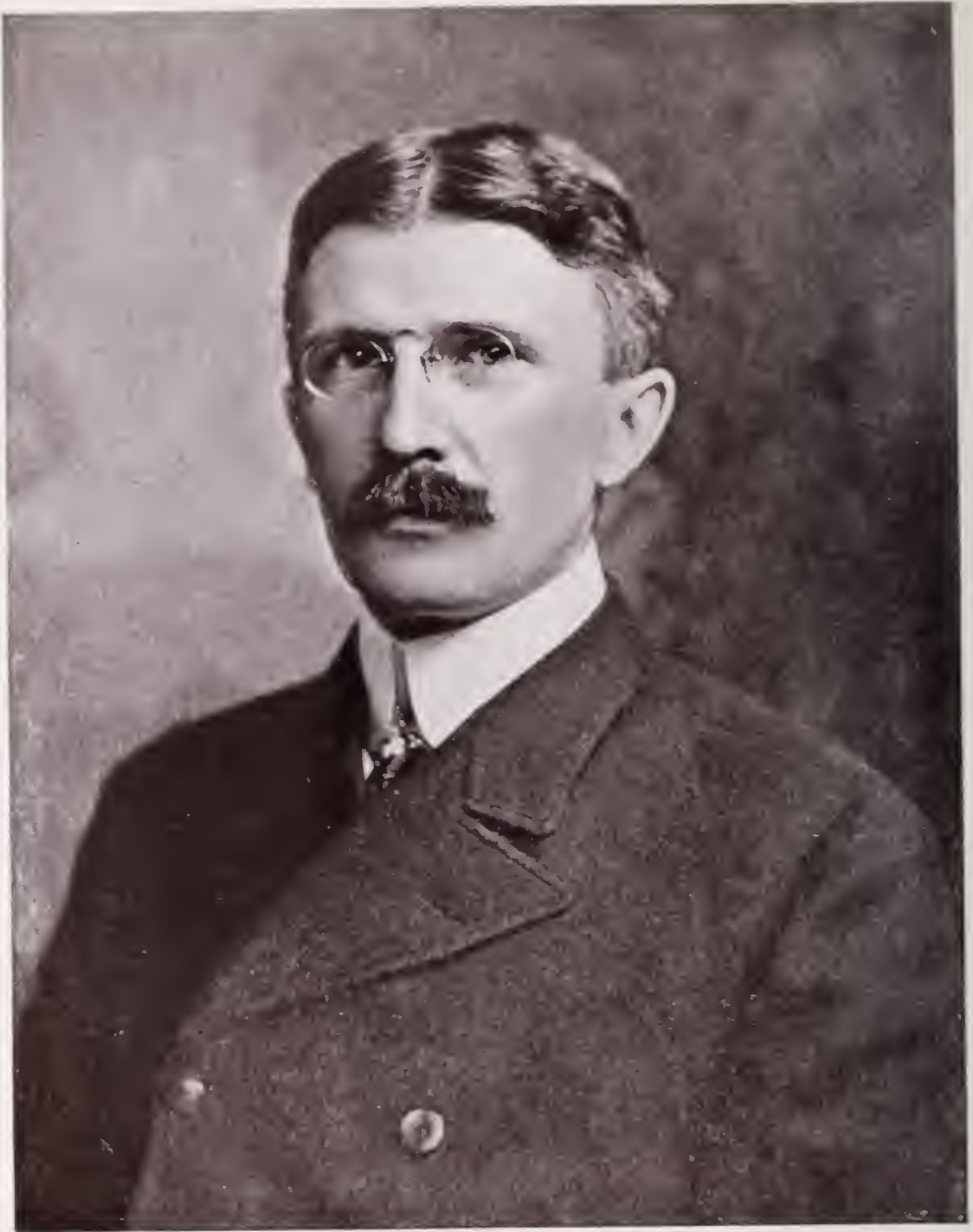
## AND LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

1149647

	PAGE
FRONTISPIECE, portrait of William Raymond Bosworth, father of the compiler.	
DEDICATION . . . . .	7
Portrait of William G. Bosworth, opposite.	
PREFACE . . . . .	9
Portrait of Mrs. Mary Bosworth Clarke . . . . .	9
Association members at Hingham Church . . . . .	14
DERIVATION AND ORIGIN OF SURNAMES . . . . .	21
ENGLISH HISTORY . . . . .	25
Two views of Market Bosworth Church . . . . .	30
EXPLANATIONS . . . . .	36
BOSWORTH GENEALOGY . . . . .	41
FIRST GENERATION . . . . .	43
EDWARD BOSWORTH'S HISTORY . . . . .	45
Jonathan Bosworth's deed from John Woodcock . . . . .	47
SECOND GENERATION . . . . .	49
MARY BOSWORTH BUCKLAND'S HISTORY . . . . .	51
JONATHAN BOSWORTH'S HISTORY . . . . .	61
Reproduction of the record of Jonathan Bosworth's land at Hingham . . . . .	63
Jonathan Bosworth's will . . . . .	70
Reproduction of "Burialls of Rehoboth 1688" . . . . .	75
BENJAMIN BOSWORTH'S HISTORY . . . . .	77
Reproduction of the record of Benjamin Bosworth's land at Hingham . . . . .	78
Reproduction of letter written by Benjamin Bosworth, in 1699 . . . . .	94
NATHANIEL BOSWORTH'S HISTORY . . . . .	95
Two views of "Silver Creek," Nathaniel Bosworth's house at Bristol, R. I. . . . .	103
View of the parlor at "Silver Creek" . . . . .	104
Nathaniel Bosworth's Tombstone . . . . .	110
HISTORY OF MARY BOSWORTH, daughter of Nathaniel . . . . .	113
BOSWORTH BAPTISMS AT HINGHAM, MASS. . . . .	123







W. G. Goswami



To My Father

*William Raymond Bosworth*

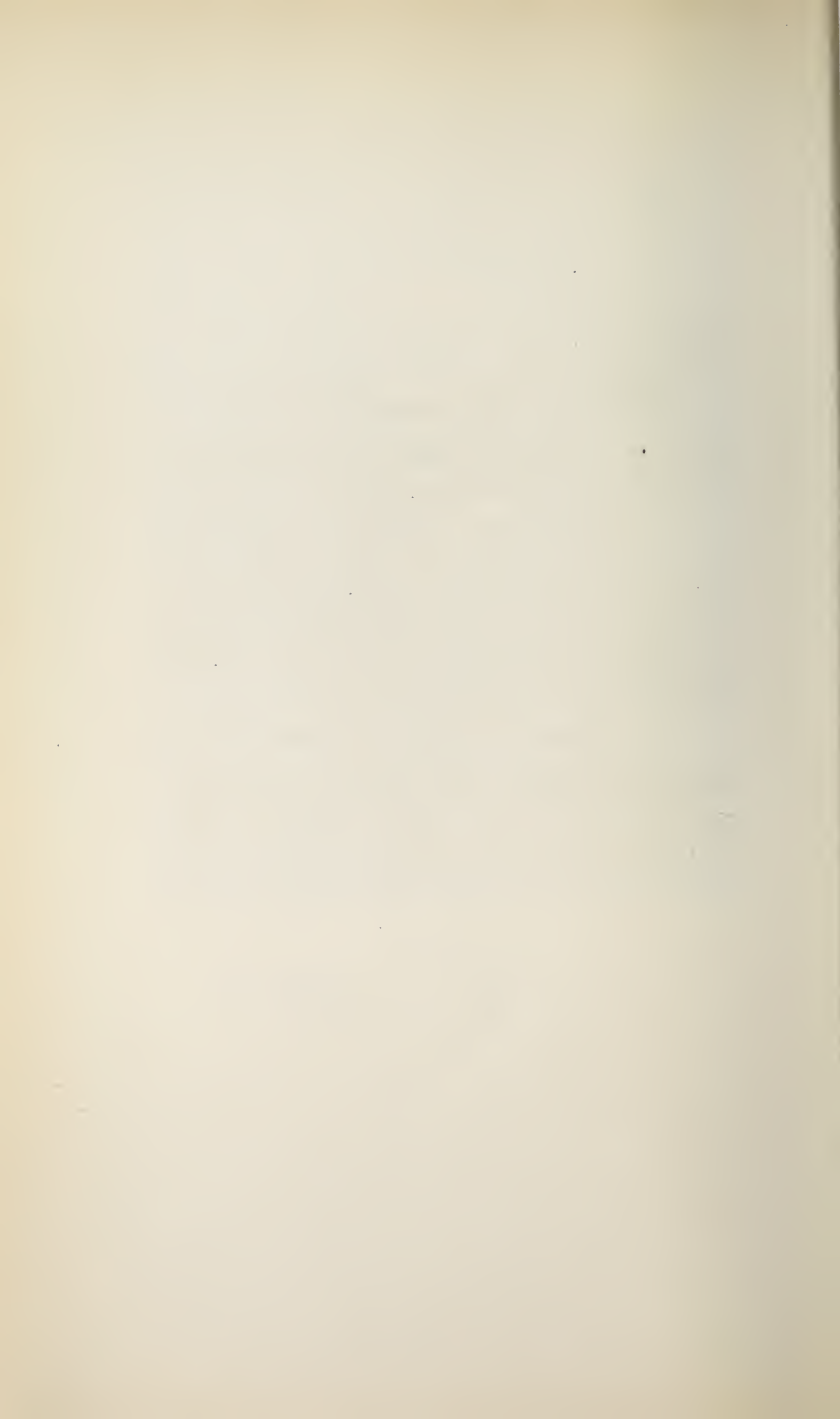
*whose earnest Christian character and loyalty to duty  
has ever been an inspiration to me; to*

*William George Bosworth*

*of New York City, whose faith in me and interest in  
the history of the Bosworth family led him to furnish  
the financial assistance by which I laid the foundation  
of this work; and to my beloved husband*

*James Thomas Clarke*

*and my dear children, without whose encouragement I  
might have failed in my purpose, this book is grate-  
fully dedicated by the compiler.*







Mary Bosworth Clarke




## PREFACE

"Genealogy is the Log Book of our ancestors on their voyage down the river of time.

"I am the sum of my ancestors.

"Genealogy reveals the kinship of man. It exemplifies the truth that God has made of one blood all nations of the earth.

"Genealogy is found, not among savages, slaves, or even peasantry, but among the civilized and educated."\*

HEN the compiler of this Genealogy was young, she used to wish her name was shorter than Bosworth, more simple, and better known; for almost invariably, when giving her address, she would be asked to spell the name; but when she reached mature life she began to realize that it was an advantage, instead of a detriment, to have a distinctive name and one so closely connected with the annals of old England, so from that time on she was greatly interested in the name and history of the family.

Soon I began to wish I knew more of my ancestors, and finding that my mother—a person in whom family ties were strong and who was deeply interested in family records—had learned that the names of three brothers of my Bosworth great-grandfather, were Ichabod, David and Hezekiah, I felt anxious to find out more about them, also our ancestry. So about the year 1882, having obtained from a friend in business the loan of an old Dun's catalogue, I searched its pages for Bosworth names and began sending out letters asking for family histories. One letter of deep interest was received in 1883, from a Mrs. Florilla Bosworth Richardson, then 92 years of age, who told of her father's experiences in the War of the Revolution, when taken prisoner by the British. Also at this time I had a friend in Rochester, N. Y., which was then my home, who was the wife of Leicester A. Bosworth. Residing in their home was his mother, Mrs. Ann (Lamson) Bosworth, an aged lady, and from her I obtained a copy of a paper, written by an ancestor of her husband, concerning the history of his branch of the family. This paper has proved of

---

\* (Culled at the Genealogical Congress in San Francisco, in 1915, from an address by Charles Finney Wilcox.)

great value to me in arranging the records of that line as far back as the fifth generation.

In these ways quite a good deal of valuable information concerning the Bosworths of America was accumulated, but, having a growing family to care for, I found I had not the time to give to a work of this kind, so turned all my papers over to another Bosworth, whose interest in the matter I hoped would lead her to undertake the work. However, she did little, and many years later, after her death, the papers were returned to me. Finally, early in 1902, when living in Brooklyn, N. Y., I again took up the study of the Bosworth genealogy, and from that time on have prosecuted the work more or less diligently as circumstances have permitted.

I began my studies in the old Lenox Library, on Fifth Avenue, New York, and by the kindness of the librarian in charge—Mr. Henry C. Strippel, now chief of the Genealogy and Local History Division of the New York Public Library—I was able to go through all the Family Genealogies on hand at that time, searching for and copying Bosworth intermarriages; also through many Town Histories, which included genealogy. It was here one day, when looking over “Connecticut Men in the Revolution,” that I came upon the names of the three Bosworth brothers that had been given me by my mother, as brothers of my great-grandfather, and I knew I was on the track of my line. Seeing that they were from Lebanon, Conn., I asked for a history of that town and was given a small one by Rev. Orlo D. Hine, published in 1880, and soon discovered among the genealogies of the town people the records of the family of David Bosworth, giving the dates of birth of his children, and found they included four sons—the three whose names my mother had given me, and my great-grandfather, Jabin Bosworth, of whom my father had told me when he was living. I saw that David Bosworth’s wife was Mary Strong, a daughter of Stephen Strong of Lebanon. Now I knew where my grandfather’s name came from, he being Stephen Strong Bosworth. How I did long for my father that day, that I might tell him of my discovery, as he had once said to me that he did wish he knew where his father’s name came from, as it sounded like a family name.



It was in this book that I first came upon one of the errors so often found in Town Histories that have given me, and no doubt others, no end of trouble. It appears that at the same time the above David was living in Lebanon, another David Bosworth, a cousin of the one who married Mary Strong, came to live in Lebanon also. His wife's name was Priscilla. Having two or three children born during this period, a record of their births was placed on the Town Register as children of "David Bosworth and wife Priscilla," and as the marriage of the other David came at a later date, the Rev. Hine very naturally concluded that Priscilla was the first wife and Mary the second, (supposing that the two Davids were identical) and so recorded it in his history. But the truth was that David and Priscilla had removed from the town, although I did not know this at the time. Later I was able to gather proof that this was so and that the book was wrong. However, I have often had to combat this error and prove my statements, for these are Mayflower lines.

About this time I came into correspondence with Mrs. Charles K. Reed of Worcester, Mass., whose maiden name was Carrie Bosworth. She belongs to the line of Jonathan, the eldest of the three Bosworth brothers, sons of Edward<sup>1</sup>, and had accumulated, with the aid of her daughter, Bertha, since deceased, a large store of material connected with this line; also with the wife of Judge Orrin Luther Bosworth of Bristol, R. I., who had gathered a wealth of material concerning the line to which her husband belonged, that of Nathaniel the youngest brother. Both, with great kindness, sent me copies of these records, and in the twenty-four years that have gone by since then have ever remained faithful friends, always responding promptly to my calls for assistance and entertaining me in their homes whenever I have been gathering records in their vicinity.

At this time I also made the acquaintance of Rev. Richard H. Bosworth, then pastor of the Congregational church of Woodhaven, L. I., and through him came to know Mr. William G. Bosworth of New York City, a relative, whom I found much interested in the history of the family, having gathered a great deal of data which he kindly allowed me to copy.

In these ways and by correspondence my store of material was constantly increasing. However, a great deal of the early history of the family was fragmentary and obscure. Unless I could consult original records in New England, how could this scattered data be pieced together? Yet I was not financially able to go to these places. So in the spring of 1905 I made an appointment to call on Mr. William G. Bosworth, at his office, and there I laid the matter before him, and asked if he was willing to finance me in making these researches. He responded nobly and generously to my appeal, and by his great kindness I was able to spend a large share of the summers of 1905 and 1906 going to the towns in New England where I knew that Bosworths had lived in the early days, and copying from the original records anything I could find about them. Without this privilege I do not think I could ever have put this book together, so it is with a heart full of gratitude and thankfulness that I have placed the name of William G. Bosworth in the Dedication.

In the summer of 1905, my eldest son, on account of ill health, removed to California, and in order that we might not be so widely separated, in 1907 the rest of the family also came to this state. I brought with me most of my genealogical books, but my letters were packed with our furniture and sent to storage, as I expected to send for them when we should get located here. Unfortunately before we could do so word came that everything had been destroyed by fire. As for the genealogy so much had been destroyed I lost heart and only worked at it intermittently. So the years rolled by until December, 1914, when my husband was struck by an automobile and so injured that he passed away in January following. His dying charge to me was, to devote the remainder of my life to completing the Genealogy, as he said I owed it to those who had done so much to help me. After his death our home in San Jose was broken up and I came to Oakland to live. Since then I have faithfully carried on the work as circumstances have permitted.

Very soon after coming to Oakland, I received a visit from Mr. Augustus H. Withington of Newton Center, Mass., with whom I had corresponded, whose mother and wife were both Bosworths, which gave him a double interest in my work. I



showed him some of the early history I had gathered and, being impressed with its value, and realizing that I was hindered by lack of means to push the work, he said there ought to be an organization of Bosworths to stand back of me. So on his return to the East, with the assistance of Mr. Tasker B. Bosworth, then of Marietta, Ohio, and Mr. Charles A. Bosworth, of Cincinnati, he was able to organize a Bosworth Association, of which these two became secretary and treasurer respectively, and Rev. Boardman B. Bosworth of New York city, president; Mr. Withington kept in the background, and declined to be president, on the ground that the position ought to be held by someone named Bosworth. The dues were one dollar a year, and I could then draw on the treasury for expenses for postage, stationery, etc., most of which I had previously furnished myself; although I ought to mention that in the early years of the work, a few contributed to expenses, including the secretary and treasurer, who have been friends from the first.

As I reviewed my material at this time, and tried to arrange my data, I found that in some cases, especially on the Benjamin line, it seemed impossible to make the connection between the data relating to recent generations and that of earlier times. I longed to once more go over the ground in New England and see if there was not something that had escaped me in my former searches which if found would give more light on these problems. So, I made two trips to the East, one in 1920 and the other in 1921 and 1922, where I spent several months in research among original records and in libraries.

While in Massachusetts in September 1921, I attended, as a delegate from the California Society of Mayflower Descendants, the Triennial Congress of the National Society at Plymouth. I had become one of the early members of the society in this state, having been able to prove, by the help of Mrs. Reed, and that of Rev. Henry H. Smythe (an Episcopal clergyman of Falmouth, Mass., like myself a descendant of David Bosworth of Lebanon, Conn.), that David was a son of John Bosworth of Barrington, R. I., and he a son of Jonathan Bosworth, Jr., whose wife was Hannah Howland, daughter of

John and Elizabeth (Tilley) Howland, both passengers on the *Mayflower*.

The same week our Bosworth Association held its first meeting at Hingham, Mass., the old home of our ancestors. At this meeting the secretary and the treasurer were re-elected, but Rev. B. B. Bosworth having deceased, Mr. Withington was made President, and Edward I. Bosworth, D.D., of the Theological Seminary, Oberlin, Ohio, who was present, was elected vice-president. At the close of this meeting a few of those who attended visited the old Hingham church where our ancestors were baptized, and were photographed near the wall at the rear of the church, by Miss Martha Edna Bosworth. A reproduction of this photograph is here given.

Finding in the libraries of the East, that many Family Associations published a periodical in which the progress of the work of the Genealogy was reported, and realizing that the members of our Association were losing interest from not hearing of the work, on my return to California I proposed to the officers that I begin the publication of something of this kind, but they did not think it wise, so I gave it up. However, in 1923—being more impressed than ever that this was the thing to do—I asked my good friend, Mrs. Reed, to stand back of me financially for the first copy of the paper, to which she kindly agreed, but when I asked consent of the officers to issue it in the name of the Association (seeing my determination, I suppose), they not only consented, but agreed to assume the future expenses of continuing the publication. This was just what I wanted, for I felt that those paying one dollar a year for membership, ought to have something to show for it. Besides I felt anxious to interest Bosworths all over the United States, and was convinced that publishing a paper was an excellent way to do it. I am glad to say that the officers have since been kind enough to write that the widespread interest in the work is due to the publication of the Bosworth Bulletin.

I trust this story of my work may not be thought too long. I have tried to make it as brief as possible, but I know from letters received that many of my readers wished to hear about it.





GROUP OF BOSWORTH ASSOCIATION MEMBERS TAKEN AT THE REAR OF THE OLD CHURCH AT HINGHAM, MASS., SEPTEMBER 8, 1921

*Top row, standing, left to right:*

- (1) Charles H. Bosworth, M. D., Wyalusing, Pa.
- (2) Tasker B. Bosworth, New York City, Secretary of the Association
- (3) Miss Elizabeth T. Bosworth, Newport, R. I.
- (4) Mrs. Mary Bosworth Clarke, Oakland, California
- (5) Miss Grace M. Bosworth, Bristol, Vt.
- (6) Mrs. Charles H. Bosworth, Pittsfield, Mass.
- (7) Mrs. Carrie Bosworth Reed, Worcester, Mass.
- (8) Leonard P. Bosworth, Barrington, R. I.
- (9) Mrs. Daniel M. Bosworth, Kingston, Mass.

*Second row, left to right:*

- (10) James D. Bosworth, East Weymouth, Mass.
- (11) Mrs. Rebekah Bosworth Macvicar, Newport, R. I. (sister of No. 3).
- (12) Miss Elizabeth Dawes, Petersham, Mass.
- (13) George W. Bosworth, D.D.S. (son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel M. Bosworth), Kingston, Mass.
- (14) Daniel M. Bosworth, Kingston, Mass. (deceased Nov. 19, 1921, aged 73 yrs.)







And now I present Part I of the Bosworth Genealogy to the members of our clan, and to the public, and in doing so greatly regret that it is not more complete. I have done my best, but, owing to the fact that in many New England towns the old records have been uncared for, until some are lost, others mutilated and some wholly destroyed by fire, it has been impossible in some cases to make connections, or in others to give proof of conclusions drawn. Here is experienced the advantage of the long years given to the work, for I have fairly lived with these people and having gathered bits of each one's history little by little, I am able in many cases to piece these fragments together and draw what I believe to be accurate conclusions as to which family they belong, even though it has not been possible to find any record of birth. An instance of this is found in Litchfield county, Conn., in the region of New Milford, where, in the middle of the eighteenth century, three Bosworth brothers lived and about seventeen Bosworth children have been reported by descendants as having been born, many of their names appearing on the land records. Yet, after years of searching, the births of only three have been found on the town registers. After a great deal of correspondence and research I came to the conclusion, from the reading of his will, that one of the brothers had no children—at least that lived to grow up—and that the other two were members of different churches, one adhering to that of his fathers, the Congregational; the other for some unknown reason becoming an Episcopalian. Hence Bosworth names appearing on a petition for establishing an Episcopal church in the town, I take to be those of sons of the latter, and have so placed them. The futility of always trusting to Bible records is shown in connection with this family, for two of these Bosworths, whose names are on the Episcopal petition, later lived and died in Pike township, Bradford county, Penn., and their family Bibles, preserved by the descendants of one of them, give their births as occurring the *same year*, within *three months* of each other, and yet descendants now living, some of them quite old, claim they were brothers. I made two visits to that region—far off from a railroad—to investigate, and finally had to come to the conclusion that the descendants were right and one of the Bibles wrong, for

everything pointed that way. (As the Bibles gave their births as occurring in 1753, I have concluded that one figure 3 was meant to be a 5.)

Another thing that has hindered the work is unanswered letters. In gathering material for this book I have written, as far as I was able, to every Bosworth whose name and address I could obtain, and have, until recent years, in many cases enclosed a stamped and addressed envelope for reply, and although many responded, in some cases sending me a quantity of records, I regret to say many did not do so even when I wrote again and reminded them. Some of the records I failed to get in this way have been supplied by other more faithful ones of the family line, but where not so obtained, the vacant spaces will bear silent witness to their neglect, a fact which I regret and no doubt coming generations will share the regret with me. I have made earnest efforts to make up for these various losses by trying to get trace of old family records, and in doing this have been amazed to find how little value is sometimes placed on what, to me, seem priceless treasure. One instance occurred in Brooklyn. A Bosworth family preparing to remove to California, cleared out the house of everything they did not wish to take with them. Among other possessions was an old family Bible, containing records of a great-grandfather, and instead of giving it to some one of the other descendants, it was put out on top of a barrel of rubbish. Fortunately, while it was awaiting the coming of the city scavenger, a relative of a younger generation called to bid the family goodbye, and seeing the old Bible, rescued it, and later I was able to copy the material on its record pages. I found afterward that this case was not as serious as it might have been, as the original owner of the Bible was a soldier of the Revolution and when applying in after years for a pension placed his family records on file and I found them preserved at the Pension Bureau at Washington. However, this does not excuse the throwing away of the old Bible, which to me was an act of sacrilege, as in some cases it would have been the only record in existence.

My own experience in this work has been so well expressed by the compiler of the Noble Genealogy\* that I take the

---

\* Lucius M. Boltwood, Hartford, Conn., 1878.



liberty to quote from his preface. Speaking of records received by mail he says: "The names and dates thus obtained have not always been distinctly written and in some instances both dates and names have been differently given in the same letter, or in subsequent letters. Again the dates given on church and town records, and on tombstones are frequently found to differ from each other and from those which appear in the family Bible. In such cases the compiler has endeavored by correspondence to reconcile conflicting dates, and where this has been impossible has published the different dates." This I shall also do, placing the most probable one first and the other in parenthesis.

Another preface I wish to quote from is that of the Hoyt Genealogy\*, as I could not possibly better express my own feelings: "A well executed book of this kind has value; first—From the natural interest which anyone takes in the name he bears. Who does not feel identified with his family name? Whose self-respect is not gratified when the name is honored and wounded when it receives a stigma? The sentiment that makes one proud to bear an illustrious name, is both natural and commendable. Every work of this kind honors the name that fills up its pages. Second: From the reverence one feels for his ancestry. We place headstones over the ancestral graves; we feel it to be a filial and sacred duty to preserve in that way the names of our fathers, and the times when they lived. But here we may, at little cost, erect for them a monument that will outlast the stone, and that we and our children can look upon and read at any time, wherever the home may be. Third: From our own desire of remembrance. Who is willing to be forgotten? And who in the ranks of common life must not resign himself to the probability that he will be forgotten by his own great-grandchildren, if his name be not kept by some such memorial as this?"

Although this work has been long and tedious, it has brought with it much pleasure. No one but those who have experienced it can know the joy that comes to one, when after years of search and study, a ray of light dawns, perhaps from a letter sent by some kind soul eager to help, or in other cases just from a thought in one's own mind, that clears up a

---

\*By David W. Hoyt, Boston, 1871.

puzzling or mysterious matter. Then the pleasure one receives from correspondence with "Cousins," not only "*once* removed," but often many times, until they become dear and valued friends. All this I have experienced. Besides all this, to anyone fond of research, this work affords plenty of opportunity; for to properly arrange the history of a person, one has to know the history of the time in which he lived, and the customs with which he was surrounded. A large proportion of the Bosworths of a later date were enlisted on the side of temperance, but those living in the eighteenth century as a rule followed the usage of the times, when nearly everyone, even the minister, drank. I came upon an example of this in the Town Records of Bristol, R. I., where I found what seemed to be a bill against the town, dated Feb. 2, 1795, for furnishing for some public occasion, "Boles of tody," "Grog," "Punch," "Rum," "Brandy," etc., among the items being "to a glass for M<sup>r</sup> Boswo<sup>rth</sup> 0: 0: 3," and often the charge was for a "Dubel Bole"! Also in the inventories of that period, from which I shall give extracts, are found items which show these same customs. In one town, on the old church records, I found where the wife of Deacon Bosworth came before the members and "in open meeting confessed to the sin of drunkenness," asked forgiveness, and after exhibiting due repentance, was reinstated; which shows the drinking was not confined to the men; and while it was considered all right to drink, to be guilty of "drunkenness" was a sin.

Another interesting thing met with in connection with this work, has been the various traditions found in different branches of the family, as to its early history in this country. All seemed to agree that three brothers came from England, but very few gave their correct names, and as for the time they came, many put it only a few generations back, when the fact was that the persons named were in the fifth or sixth generation from the emigrants.

One of the hardest things with which I had to contend was a spurious line, met with almost at the very beginning. I did not suspect it at first, as it really contained some truth with much that was false. But, having begun to doubt it, in 1905 I went to call on the oldest member of this line then living, and learned the story of how it was obtained. He said his father



had accepted the offer of a man—whom he knew now must have been very unprincipled—to prepare, for a certain consideration, a chart of his ancestors, to be framed and hung in his home. Of course he gave the man what he knew of his ancestry, and this was the truth it contained. Since it was impossible to find any connecting records (I do not think they are in existence, for though I have searched diligently I have been unable to find them), the man deliberately made up names of persons who never existed and put them on the chart. After learning this I laid these records aside, believing they had no value, but this ancestral story was continually cropping up, either being recounted to me in letters from members of this family (for it had been widespread among them), or being published in genealogical books and papers. Finally, in 1922, there came into my hands some old letters, consisting of a correspondence between two members of this line concerning these records, in which each expressed doubt as to their truthfulness, but both agreed that they probably contained a grain of truth if only the chaff could be separated from the wheat. I determined, if possible, to extract the wheat, so getting together these old records and the bits of evidence of all sorts that I had collected during the years, I spent days in going over them, comparing dates, piecing the different stories together, discarding what seemed to be false, and retaining what seemed to be the truth from related information, until I had the line reconstructed to my complete satisfaction, and have found no reason since to alter my conclusions. I presented it to my advisors, Mrs. Carrie Bosworth Reed and Mrs. Orrin L. Bosworth, and they both assured me they were convinced I had at last correctly solved the mystery that had been so baffling.

In reviewing my experiences in the study of the Bosworth family of the past, and my correspondence with those of the present generation, I find that only a comparatively small number have attained to wealth and station. Much the larger part belong to that great class of which Lincoln spoke so beautifully, that "God must have loved the common people, He made so many of them." The Bosworths in America surely belong to the class which form the "bone and sinew" of our nation. On the other hand, while many remark that

they are afraid to investigate their ancestry "for fear they may come on a hangman's rope," I can truthfully say that only in an extremely few cases have I come upon the record of a Bosworth who has done anything unworthy of the name.

I have had a sacred purpose in this work: namely, to show to the younger generations how much they owe to the world on account of the precious inheritance they have received in the record of the noble, honest and upright characters of their ancestors. It has been my desire to preserve the history of these ancestors in an enduring form, to be an incentive to their descendants to imitate the virtues of these enterprising, God-fearing men and women.

In compiling this work I have exercised the greatest solicitude to have it as correct as possible. But I realize that in spite of all my care mistakes have crept in. However, I am not responsible for some of these, as I have copied them as received from others.

In closing I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to all who have assisted me in any way, either by sending me records, or by entertaining me in their homes. They are too numerous to mention each one personally.

Faithfully yours,

MARY BOSWORTH CLARKE.

Oakland, California

May 1, 1926



## DERIVATION *and* ORIGIN *of* SURNAMES

Who hath not owned, with rapture-smitten frame,  
The power, the grace, the magic of a name?—*Campbell.*

While this Genealogy is concerned with the Bosworth Family in America, a brief review of the origin of surnames in general and of Bosworth in particular may not be out of place in this record. From the interesting chapter on Surnames in “Remains Concerning Britain,” by William Camden (Clarencieux King-at-Arms), first published in 1607, we find that surnames (so called because they are added to the original or Christian name; not because they are names of the sire or father), were used in no nation anciently except among the Romans. But “surnames, passing from father to son and continuing to their issue, were not anciently in use among any people in the world.” Surnames began to be taken up in France about 1000 A.D., but not in England till about the time of the Conquest (1066). Gradually, the “better sort” took surnames, but they were not settled among the common people fully until about the time of Edward II (1300); but still varied according to the father’s name, as Richardson, if his father were Richard; Hodgeson, if his father were Roger, or in some other respect; and from thenceforth began to be established in their posterity. “I have never found,” continues the author, “any hereditary surname before the Conquest.” Surnames or family names were taken from almost every source—no town, village or hamlet in England but has given names to families. Many surnames had their origin from rivers and trees; strangers coming to England and taking up residence were named for their countries, etc., etc.

“Whereas, therefore, these local denominations of Families are of no great antiquity, I cannot yet see why men should think that their Ancestors gave names to places, when the places bore those very same names before any men did their surnames. . . . Neither must all, having their names from places, suppose that their Ancestors were either Lords, or possessors of them; but may assure themselves that they originally came from them, or were born at them. But the Germans and Polonians do clear this error by placing In

before the Local names, if they are the possessors of the place, or Of, if they only were born at them."

"After local names, the most names in number were derived from occupations or professions, trades, crafts, arts, etc. Neither was there any trade, craft, art, profession or occupation never so mean, but had a name among us commonly ending in Er, as Taylor, Potter, Smith, Sadler, Archer, Weaver, Painter, Tavener, Walker (Fuller in Old English); Baker, Baxter, Boulenger, all in one signification; Collier, Carpenter, Joyner, Salter, Armorer, Spicer, Grocer, Monger, i.e., Chapman; Brewer, Brasier, Webster, Wheeler, Wright, Cartwright, Shipwright, Forbisher, Farrar, Goff, i.e., Smith in Welsh, etc., and men accordingly denominated; but some are worn out of use, and therefore the significations are unknown, and others have been mollified ridiculously by the bearers, lest they should seem vilified by them. And yet the like names were among the noble Romans. Many names were derived from colors, flowers and fruits; from fishes, birds, etc." The learned author humorously concludes his chapter by observing that "it was high time to stay, for I am advised that there is one who will draw all English Surnames of the best Families out of the pit of Poetry, as Percy from flying Perseus; Lee from Laetus, turned into a Swan in Ovid; Jackson from Jason, etc. Well he may satisfy them herein whom I cannot." In a footnote to this an editor comments: "Who the 'one' may be who found out these wonderful etymons I know not; but, by a process no less absurd than this, some modern genealogists have found our plebeian Turner to be 'tour noire.' "

---

The more one studies the origin and derivation of Surnames, the more interesting this apparently dry subject becomes. A modern student of the Surname, Ernest Weekley, M.A., found it most fascinating. He has written three books dealing with various phases of surnames.

However, much caution is necessary in tracing the origins of names. In answer to an "esteemed correspondent," who wrote to Mr. Weekley, calling attention to the "many and various side-possibilities in etymology," saying he was inclined to think that the origins of most surnames are mere



guesses, the author replied: "He seems to me to be both right and wrong. It is perfectly easy to show by irrefutable evidence, the derivation of the great majority of surnames, but it is at the same time impossible to say to the individual, 'Your name comes from so-and-so,' unless that individual has a pedigree dating back to the Middle Ages."

Well, that is the purpose of genealogy, by diligently and patiently tracing the "line," to furnish a pedigree; and certainly, as is abundantly shown, the Bosworth name is an ancient one.

## BOSWORTH

Considerable delving has been done in the search for the derivation of the name Bosworth. Evidently some such genealogist as above has found a pleasing origin for it. A plausible but untrustworthy version is that given in *The Century Cyclopedia of Names*, p. 173: "Bosworth, or Market Bosworth, Modern English, *Bosworth*; Anglo Saxon, probably *Bosanworth* [found as *Bosworth* in a spurious Latin charter, A.D. 833]; from *Bosan*, gen. of *Bosa*, a man's name [cf. Anglo-Saxon, *Bosanham*, now *Bosham*], and *worth*, farmstead. A market town in Leicester, England."

But according to Isaac Taylor, M.A., Litt.D., Hon. LL.D., Canon of York, in *Names and Their Histories*, London, 1898, Second Edition, p. 72: "Bosworth, Leicestershire (Anglo-Saxon, *Bosuurth* and *Bosuirth*), denotes a *worth*, or 'small estate,' on which stood a *boose* (Anglo-Saxon, *bos*), a dialect word meaning a 'cow-stall or ox-stall'. It cannot be the 'estate of Bosa,' as it has been usually explained, as that would have been *Bosanworth* in Anglo-Saxon, like Bosham, Sussex (Anglo-Saxon, *Bosanham*)."

The above derivation is also given in Harrison's "Surnames of the United Kingdoms. Vol. I, p. 42: *Bosworth*, England—belonging to Bosworth (anciently *Bosuurth*)—the cattle enclosure (Old English or Anglo-Saxon) *bos* (ih., a cattle stall plus *worth*, an enclosure.

In "Homes of Family Names in Great Britain," by Henry B. Guppy, M. B., 1890, it is stated, p. 69: "The *Bosworths* possess the name of more than one Leicestershire parish." On p. 260 "*Bosworth*" is found among other "county



names," i. e., names found only in two or three counties. From Notes on some of the names of Leicestershire and Rutland: "The Bosworths derive their names from Leicestershire parishes."

A notable authority is Chas. W. Bardsley, M.A., author of "A Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames" (dedicated, by the way, to President McKinley, in token of his efforts to promote friendship between the two English-speaking nations). On page 120: *Bosworth*—Local, "of Bosworth," two parishes, Husbands Bosworth and Market Bosworth, in the county of Leicester. In "English Surnames," by the same author, p. 134: "A name like 'William de la Worth' represented our 'Worths' in the 13th century. . . . It had come to denote *a small farmstead* at the time the surname arose."

Another high authority on the Old English or Anglo-Saxon language was Joseph Bosworth, D.D., F.R.S., Rawlinson professor of Anglo-Saxon in the University of Oxford, whose manuscript collections on the old language were continued and published in 1882 by T. Northcote, M.A., entitled "An Anglo-Saxon Dictionary." He defines the compounds, *bos* and *worth*, forming the name as: *Bosg*, an ox-stall or cow-stall, where the cattle stand all night in winter; and *worth*, an enclosed homestead; a habitation with surrounding land.

And as Husbands Bosworth and Market Bosworth have been and still are noted for their cattle fairs, it is undoubtedly thus the name originated.

Below are given various forms of spelling the name as found in England in old papers, books, church records, etc. Passing the very doubtful *Bosworth* of the "spurious Latin Charter" of 833 A.D., we find, beginning in 1048:

Boseworde	Boseworth	Boreworth
Bosuurth	Bosworthe	Bossworthe
Bosuirth	Boreswurth	Boseworthe
Boresworth	Bosseworth	Barsworth
Boresworthe	Bosseworthe	Boasworth

Since the early part of the sixteenth century the name seems to have been spelled as it is today, except that in New England in the early days it was very often written Bozworth.

E. J. C.

# ENGLISH HISTORY\*

## *Market Bosworth*

Its Manor, Church and School,—Historical Notes

For many years the compiler of the Bosworth Genealogy has assumed that the remote, if not the immediate ancestors of the American Bosworths, had lived in the little English village of Market Bosworth, in Leicestershire, seat of an ancient Bosworth Manor, the first mention of which (spelled "Boseworde"), is in the reign of King Edward the Confessor, in 1048.

Market Bosworth is described as a "picturesque little place, with clean streets, in the middle of which a dog may doze in perfect safety even at the busiest time of day." But in the vicinity, at least two stirring events took place some hundreds of years ago. One, the Battle of Bosworth Field, the final battle in the War of the Roses, in which King Richard III, the last of the Plantagenets, lost his crown and life, the royal scepter passing to the Tudors. A covered well, known as "King Richard's well," where he drank just before the battle, still stands. About 160 years later, on the very place where King Richard fell, another encounter took place in 1644, between the Royalists and Cromwell's men. So the town was probably not so quiet on these occasions.

At Market Bosworth is a Grammar School—"an establishment with an enviable reputation, the early history of which is wrapped in mystery. It is known to have been in existence in 1528, but the date of its original foundation is unknown."

Market Bosworth is situated on a hill and is about five hundred feet above sea level. On the crown of the hill is the Church of St. Peter, said to date from the fourteenth century.

---

\* The compiler of this genealogy had expected before beginning its publication to have something definite to report as to the parents and English ancestry of Edward Bosworth, the emigrant, but although the search has been going on for years, and considerable money has been expended (contributed mainly by Mrs. Carrie Bosworth Reed), nothing satisfactory has been obtained. As research is still under way, it is hoped we may have something to present in a later part of this work. Meantime I have thought best to publish some of the information concerning places and people in England named Bosworth, gathered during the years.—M. B. C.



However, in a Register of 1220, a certain Nicholas de Verdon is described as a Patron of the Church of Bosworth.

A word concerning the Park at Bosworth. It was the site of the camp of the Duke of Norfolk—Richard's adherent, to whom, before the fateful encounter came the warning, "scrawled on his gate," as told by Holinshed:—

"Jockey of Norfolk, be not so bold;

For Dickon, thy master, is bought and sold"—  
hinting at Stanley's treachery.

It may be explained that the town became *Market Bosworth* in 1285, when Edward the First granted to Sir William de Harcourt and his heirs a weekly market and an annual fair at their manor house. The corn market still continues, though the cherry fair is now obsolete.

---

At the American Antiquarian Society Library at Worcester, Mass., the compiler found a rare old volume, a portion of *Magna Britannia*, published early in the 16th century, from which the following was copied:

## LEICESTERSHIRE

"Leicestershire, or as it is called in Domesday Book, which is a survey of all the Lands of England, made by William the Norman Conqueror, Le . . . (illegible), takes its Name from the chief Town of it, LEICESTER . . . It is about 96 Miles in Circumference containing within that compass, 200 Parishes, 6 Hundreds\*, 560000 Acres, 18702 Houses, having for its Boundaries," etc.

## SPARKINGHO HUNDRED

"The Market-Towns of this Hundred are only two, viz. Hinckley and Bosworth, of which we shall give the best

---

\*"HUNDRED. An ancient territorial unit in England, less than a shire, or county, and usually greater than a parish or town. The origin of the name is involved in obscurity, but it is supposed to be derived from a convenient grouping of one hundred families for purposes of defense, or for local administration. . . . Each hundred had a Court of ancient and forgotten origin, which was known as the *Hundred Court*. This was held at frequent intervals, and appears to have been of equal authority with the county courts. . . . But the hundred was also a communal unit. It was liable in damages for a false judgment given by the hundred court. As early as the reign of Edgar it was provided that the hundred should be responsible for the administration of justice and liable to punishment, by fine or otherwise, if thieves and other criminals were not brought to justice." [The New International Encyclopaedia.]

account we can, and the Villages adjoining where we can find anything remarkable” . . .

“BOSWORTH, an ancient Market-Town in this Hundred, having its Market weekly on Wednesday, and Fair on St. John Baptist’s-Day, June 24, which Privileges Richard Harcourt obtained of King Edward I when he was Lord of the Town. It is situated upon a Hill, in an wholesome and pleasant Air, and in a fruitful and fertile Soil, both for Corn and Grass. The Manor\* did anciently belong to the Earls of Leicester and by a Partition came to Saer de Quincy, Earl of Winchester, who gave it to Richard de Harcourt, of Stanton-Harcourt in Oxfordshire, in the Reign of King John. The Manor continued in the Family till King Henry VIII’s Reign, when it came to the Marquis of Dorset and from him by the Earl of Huntingdon to Sir Wolftan Dixey, Kt., whose Heirs are, or lately were, Owners of it.

“Three miles distant from this Town, upon a Plain called Redmore, was the Right of the Crown of England determined by a signal Battel; . . . This Battel was called Bosworth field, not that the Place was within the Compass of the Parish, but that it was the nearest Place of Note to it.”

---

The History of Leicestershire, by John Nichols (old volumes found at the Congressional Library, Washington, D. C.), gives an illustration of the Hall at Market Bosworth, with the following dedication: “To Mrs. Pochin, Daughter of Sir Wolstan Dixie, the 4th Baronet of Bosworth Park, and Relict of George Pochin, late of Bonn, in the county of Lincoln, Esqr. This Plate is humbly dedicated by her very obedient Servant J. Nichols.” [Vol. 4, Part 2, p. 500.]

### *Husbands Bosworth*

Husbands Bosworth is a parish situated in the *eastern* part of the County of Leicester, about fourteen miles from the city of Leicester, while Market Bosworth is twelve miles

---

\*“By the word Manor—so called from the French *manoir*, a dwelling, and the Latin verb *manere*, to dwell—was originally meant an estate containing the dwelling or mansion of the feudal owner. The house itself was designated the manor house, and the owner the Lord of the Manor.” [Tilson Genealogy.]



west of Leicester. There is also another Bosworth Manor Hall situated at Husbands Bosworth, where the Bosworth Psalter, described later, was found. Nichols in above History [Vol. 2, Part 2], gives illustrations of "Husbands Bosworth Hall"; a view of "The Modern House"; also "Husbands Bosworth Bridge." These are dedicated as follows: "To Francis Fortescue Turville, Esq. these views are affectionately inscribed by his faithful humble servant J. Nichols."

### *The Bosworth Psalter*

"An account of a manuscript formerly belonging to O. Turville-Petrie, Esq., of Bosworth Hall, now Addit. MS. 37517 at the British Museum, by Abbot Gasquet and Edmund Bishop."

The above is on an index card in the Congressional Library, Washington, D. C. Your historian, having heard of this book before going East in 1920, determined to see it, and did so. Finding it of deep interest a brief review was made which is here given.

#### "PREFATORY NOTE

"The recognition of an ancient English Psalter, hitherto unnoticed and undescribed, is of sufficient importance to call for some detailed account of so interesting a manuscript. A few months ago, while on a brief visit to Mr. and Mrs. Turville-Petrie, at Bosworth Hall, Husbands Bosworth, Leicestershire, I was asked to examine the library, and in particular the court rolls and MSS. in their possession. Among these latter there were two of considerable importance, one of which is the Psalter to be presently described. I had known of the existence of this singularly interesting volume from the slight account given of it in Nichols's History of Leicestershire, which was derived from a notice of the library furnished by Mr. D. Wells to 'The Gentleman's Magazine' for 1789 [Vol. LX, p. 117]. I was, however, wholly unprepared to see what at once appeared to me to be one of the most important MS. English Psalters in existence, and which, strange as it may seem, has up to the present time escaped notice by students and archaeologists. Recognizing the great interest of this precious volume, which the owner allowed me to take away, I immediately proposed to

Mr. Edmund Bishop, my friend and fellow-worker during many years, that we should together make a joint study of the MS." etc.

May 1, 1907.

F. A. Gasquet.

#### HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE VOLUME

The Bosworth Psalter consists of 137 folios (274 pages) of thick parchment, each  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches by  $10\frac{5}{6}$  inches, in gatherings of four sheets (8 leaves) bound in stout oak boards.

"Each verse of the psalms has a red initial; and the first verses of the psalms have initial letters executed in soft colours and about four lines in height. The whole writing occupies rather more than twelve inches by seven inches, with twenty-five lines to the page."

In describing the coloring of the ornamental initials, he says that they are wonderfully preserved. He also says that no gold was used, but "the chief colours employed are blue, mauve, brown, red lead, venetian red, pale pink and pale yellow. The vigour of the drawing and the harmonious tones of the colours show a most skilled artist."

"On the first page of the calendar are the three signatures, 'Thomas Cantuarien,' 'Arundel,' and 'Lumley,' so well known to students of the Royal Collection of MSS. in the British Museum as those of Thomas Cranmer, Henry Fitzallen, 12th Earl of Arundel, and John, Lord Lumley, who died in 1609. Many of the manuscripts collected by Archbishop Cranmer . . . were subsequently acquired by the Earl of Arundel. By him they were bequeathed to Lord Lumley, who was his son-in-law, and soon after the latter's death the whole collection was purchased by King James I for his son Henry, Prince of Wales; and on his death they became a part of the Royal Library, which ultimately was presented to the nation by George II, and is now in the British Museum.

"It seems certain that the Bosworth Psalter at one time formed a part of this Royal Collection . . . it may be taken for granted that this volume was purchased by James I on the death of Lord Lumley in 1609. How it subsequently became separated from the Royal Collection it is, of course, impossible to conjecture. It may be said to have found its



way into the library at Bosworth Hall from the family of Fortescue of Salden, in Buckinghamshire. The few other MSS. in the library certainly came to the present owner in that way and we know that in 1762 Elizabeth Fortescue was possessed of the principal manor of Husbands Bosworth, which had previously been in the possession of her grandfather, father and brother. She, dying in 1763, devised her estate to Francis Fortescue Turville, from whose descendants the present owner, Mr. Turville-Petrie, lately inherited the estates.

“Although it is impossible to trace the post-Reformation history of the Bosworth Psalter beyond 1609, until 1798, when Nichols describes it as being at Husbands-Bosworth, an entry in an early catalogue of Christ Church, Canterbury, appears to refer to this volume at a very early date.”

It is supposed to have been written about the year 950 A.D., probably for St. Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury. “No person connected with Christ Church, Canterbury, would seem to be more likely to have been the possessor of this manuscript, so notable in its art and execution, than St. Dunstan, the first ecclesiastic of the kingdom.”

In comparing this manuscript to the other the author says: “They are both elaborate and even gorgeous, whilst the ornamentations of the Bosworth Psalter are of a wholly different character. These latter are in perfect taste, and they manifest at once a perfection of design, a simplicity of execution, and a wonderful harmony and scheme of color. The whole manifests a staid and serious, yet withal grand mind, behind the composition. To those who know the history of the latter half of the tenth century the Winchester books can hardly fail to remind them of the personality of St. Ethelwold, and in the same way the Bosworth Psalter seems in its special characteristics to suggest the even greater personality of St. Dunstan, the greatest man of his age.”

“In our opinion therefore this Bosworth Psalter should be assigned to a date corresponding to the earliest years of St. Dunstan’s archiepiscopate at Canterbury. It was probably written for him, and quote possibly under his direction the artist ornamented it according to his taste.”



*Market Bosworth  
Church*



INTERIOR OF MARKET BOSWORTH CHURCH (ST. PETER'S), AT MARKET BOSWORTH,  
LEICESTERSHIRE, ENGLAND





A letter to the compiler from the Keeper of the Manuscripts in the British Museum, in reply to my query as to why this Psalter bears the Bosworth name, says:

“The Bosworth Psalter is named solely from its former ownership by the Turville (afterwards Petrie) family of Bosworth Hall in Leicestershire. It previously belonged to Archbishop Cranmer and John, Lord Lumley.”

However, it makes it of deep interest to us that it now bears our family name, in addition to its great historic value.

---

In a prospectus of Bosworth Park, published prior to its subdivision and sale in 1918, is found considerable descriptive matter about this old place, and as we have seen under “Origin of Names” that Camden says that persons having their names from places “may assure themselves that they originally came from them” (meaning their ancestors, of course), it makes this locality of vital interest to us who bear the name, so selections are here given:

### *Historical*

“Bosworth, for distinction from another of the same name in the Hundred of Gartre (Husbands Bosworth), is commonly called Market Bosworth. It is situated ten miles to the south of Ashby de la Zouch, twelve to the West of Leicester . . . , and in the ecclesiastical division of the county within the deanery of Sparkenhoe. In 1048, in the sixth year of King Edward the Confessor, one FERNOT, a knight, was lord of this manor.”

“Two ploughlands in Boseworde, which were of the Queen’s fee, and had been held freely by Alwin in the reign of the Confessor, when they were valued at ten shillings, were worth twenty shillings at the time of the general survey, and were then held by Hugo under Hugo de Grentesmainell. The land was equal to one plough; which was held by a priest, with a deacon, four bordars, and two bondsmen. There were twelve acres of meadow, and a wood, one furlong long, and half a furlong broad.

“Six other ploughlands in Boseworde, which in the reign



of the Confessor were valued at four pounds, were worth only fifty shillings at the time of the General Survey, and were then held by the Earl of Mellent. Three ploughs and two bondsmen were employed in the demesne; and seven socmen, with ten villans and seven bordars, had two ploughs. There was one wood one league long, and half a league broad. The record adds 'All these lands (Ailestone, Frellesworde, Huncote and Boseworde) Saxi held; and might go whithersoever he pleased.' "

Then follows considerable as to the Harcourt family and how Bosworth came to them, and deeds transcribed from the originals, which are in Latin. Much is quoted from *Magna Britannia* which has already been given.

Robert de Harcourt, the first of the name in this country (England; the family had come from France where it "was of great antiquity"), "married Isabella, daughter of Richard de Camville, by whom he obtained the manor of Stanton Harcourt in Oxfordshire, and divers land in Leicestershire. This Robert de Harcourt was sheriff of the counties of Leicester and Warwick in the years 1199, 1201 and 1202."

"In 1216 King John commanded the Provost of Scardeburg to pay the ferm of their town to William de Harcourt, who was to dispend it in the livery or maintenance of the sergeants that did duty in Scardeburg Castle.

"To Sir Richard de Harcourt, son of William de Harcourt, of Stanton Harcourt, Saer de Quincy gave the manor of BOSWORTH, with Orabella, his daughter, in marriage about the latter end of the reign of King John, to be held of him by a whole knight's fee, and this Sir Richard Harcourt, in 1223, had his seal graven after the fashion of a baron, and in those times, when arms were young and scarce used, he had his shield, with his arms thereon engraven, and the same scotcheon also in his secret seal. At the time of his death, Richard de Harcourt held the Manor of Bosworth in capite of sir John Comyn, earl of Boughan in Scotland, and lord of Wytewyke in co. Leicester by homage of £6 per annum, and paying scutage of one knight's fee; and John de Harcourt was his eldest Son."

"The manor of Bosworth, with the advowson of the

church there, in the time of King Henry VIII, came by descent to Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorset; and upon the attainder of Henry duke of Suffolk, his son (1554) it fell to the Crown; and was granted by king Philip and queen Mary to sir Edward Hastings, of Loughborough, knight (afterward Lord Hastings) who, dying without issue, bequeathed it to his nephew, Henry, lord Hastings, afterwards earl of Huntington, and his heirs; and in 1567, Henry, earl of Huntington sold it to sir Wolstan Dixie, a knight, a citizen and lord mayor of London."

"Sir Wolstan Dixie, son of John Dixie, and grandson of Richard Dixie seated himself at Bosworth in 1608; which estate he received from his great uncle the lord Mayor. In 1609 he held the manors of Bosworth and Cadeby in capite; and in 1630 he was the only freeholder in Bosworth."

"There is a remarkable marble monument in the church at Bosworth to the Dixie who built Bosworth Hall. It was erected by his sister Margaret, whose life size figure, prostrated by grief, is found lying before a shield inscribed with a record of her brother's virtues." (This may be the marble monument that can be seen in the interior view of the church.)

### *Coat of Arms and Crest*

It has been mentioned above that Sir Richard de Harcourt, who was the possessor of the Manor of Bosworth in 1223, "had his shield with his arms thereon engraven," this being, "when arms were young." What these arms were and whether they pertained to the Manor of Bosworth, I cannot say, but I do know, from a letter received in 1919 from the College of Arms, London, that: "1 Feb. 1549-50, arms for Bosworth were granted by Thomas Hawley, Clarenceux, to Isabel (nee Bosworth) Lady Fielding of the town of Nuneaton, co. Warwick, widow of Sir William Fielding, knight." Also that "Sir John Bosworth, Chamberlain of London, who died in 1752," used arms, the description of which is the same as that given below.

Among the Bosworths in America there has been preserved—since their arrival here—if tradition in the families is to



be believed, two quite different coats of arms. One is held in the Nathaniel line, Mrs. Orrin L. Bosworth of Bristol, R. I., having a painted copy. This one answers to the description given of the one mentioned above, used by Sir John Bosworth previous to 1752; viz.: "Or, a lion rampant gules collared argent"; which means—on a shield of gold, a red, rampant lion wearing a silver collar.

In 1906 I copied the following from papers in the possession of Mrs. M. F. Richmond, of North Adams, Mass. (a descendant of Major Benjamin Bosworth, of Bristol, R. I.); she did not remember where she got it, or who wrote it. (Mrs. Richmond was of the same line as Orrin L. Bosworth.)

"I have the crest of the family and also the coat-of-arms. The crest is a demi-lion rampant, in tawny ink or the natural color of the lion. The coat of arms is a shield of the most ancient shape—being a rampant lion in red with a silver collar. The motto is *Animus valet*.\* The history of the coat of arms throws the family back into Scotland in very early times. No family can use the red lion except they are Scotch, and then only by permission of the king. The Bosworth coat-of-arms is precisely the same as the king's except the silver collar (the king's is a gold collar) which proves they must have been in royal favor or they could not have used it."

Another coat held by the descendants of Deacon Joseph Bosworth of Halifax, Mass., who was of the Jonathan line, is quite different from the first. It is described: "He beareth argent, a Fess between two lions, rampant, azure." Mr. Tasker Bourne Bosworth, Secretary of the Bosworth Association, has furnished me with a copy of this, painted in water colors. The shield is supposed to be of silver, divided across the middle by a bar called a Fess, with a blue, rampant lion above and below it. Now these as represented are not lions, but griffins, a fabled animal used in heraldry, half lion and half bird—having the head, body and tail of a lion, but having wings, and on its fore feet, claws like a bird. The crest above it is a whole lion rampant, in natural colors, while the crest of the former one is a *demi*-lion in natural

---

\* The meaning of *Animus valet* is given in books of Heraldry as "Courage prevails"; but, "The spirit conquers," would seem to be a more accurate translation.



colors, such as is given in Fairbairn's Crests, and some other books on heraldry, as being the Bosworth crest; which I have used on the Bosworth Bulletin, and on my stationery.

However, here is the strange thing about it: On the will of Bellamy<sup>3</sup> Bosworth, son of *Nathaniel*, and on other legal papers made by Nathaniel's grandsons, there are impressions in the wax of their seals, showing an exact representation of the *griffin* found on the shield in the coat of arms held by the descendants of *Jonathan*, and not like the coat the descendants of Nathaniel now hold.

To complicate matters, there has been published another coat of arms as that of the Bosworth family, taken from Burke's General Armory [pub. 1884, p. 102], described as "Gu. a cross vair betw. four annulets ar.," which means: on a red shield, a fur cross between four silver rings. The crest, "a lily ppr. slipped and leaved," which means: a lily in the natural colors on a stem with leaves. It appears that this crest was given by James II to his natural son, James Fitz-James, when he raised him to the peerage and gave him, among other titles, that of "*Baron Bosworth*." I feel sure the American Bosworths have no desire to claim this crest; besides, it was created after our ancestors left England, and became extinct when James II was banished.

To bring truth out of confusion, and find out which one of the above, if either, our ancestors were entitled to, the matter was taken up nearly a year ago by a member of the Association, and a correspondence carried on with England concerning the matter, but although the money asked for was sent last November, nothing has yet been received. If satisfying results are obtained they will be published later.

## EXPLANATIONS\*

Before beginning the following history, there are some matters to be explained to those not familiar with Genealogical books, as follows:

### *Generation Number*

The small superior figure at the right of the first name indicates the generation to which the person belongs, numbering from the first emigrant to America; thus, Edward<sup>1</sup>; his children numbered two, as Jonathan<sup>2</sup>; his grandchildren three, as Jonathan, Jr.<sup>3</sup>, etc. Where a long line is given and two or three of the same name follow each other, I have not thought it necessary to repeat the name, but simply give the numbers; for instance: (*Aaron*<sup>6</sup>, *John*<sup>5,4,3</sup>, *Nathaniel*<sup>2</sup>, *Edward*<sup>1</sup>) means that Aaron of the sixth generation, was son of John of the fifth, who was son of John of the fourth, son of John of the third, son of Nathaniel, son of Edward, the emigrant.

Besides the generation number at the right of each name, in the lists of children, it will be noted that before each name there are two numbers, the one in Roman being the number in the family. The one before this is the serial number, beginning with Edward 1, which is carried along all through the entire book, giving each child a number successively. If this number has no plus sign after it, all the history I have of that child is given there. If this number is followed by plus it indicates there is more history to follow, and it may be found by turning on in the book until this same number is found in a heavy figure in the center at the beginning of a history. To trace a line backward (when the book is completed), note the number at the top of a history, then turn backward until this same number is found near the margin, before the record of birth; note the number of the father standing in the center above his name, then continue to turn back as above. However, at the beginning of each history,

---

\* Some of these explanations may seem superfluous to old students of genealogy, but some copies of this book are going to persons who live far in the country, away from any library, and are unfamiliar with books of this kind. So in preparing these explanations, I have tried to keep in mind my own ignorance of such matters when I first began this work, and how glad I should have been for such help.



following the father's name, the line will be given leading back to Edward<sup>1</sup>.

### *Double Dating*

is another matter which will need to be explained. The reader will observe that in giving dates, the year will often be found expressed, as for instance, 1675-6, or 1675/6, or perhaps as a fraction, as  $17\frac{10}{11}$  in the case of the death of the second wife of Benjamin<sup>2</sup>. All these forms mean the same, but only occur previous to the year 1752, and only between January 1st and March 25th. The reason for this is: In the year 1582, Pope Gregory XIII introduced what is known as the Gregorian calendar, the one now in use. This calendar begins the year on January 1st, whereas the one used before that time began on March 25th, about the time of the Spring equinox, March being called the "first month." Being promulgated by the Pope, Protestant England would not at first adopt it, even though all the other countries of Europe did so, but in the year 1752, by Act of Parliament, it was made the official calendar. During the years intervening from the time it was introduced until its adoption by Great Britain, it was necessary to use the double date, for, while England and her Colonies were carrying the year on after January 1st to March 25th, the rest of the world had changed to a new year. It was written in the various ways given, just as the writer fancied; or in some cases the date of the year was followed by the letters "N.S.," meaning new style, or "O.S." for old style. Sometimes the chronicler would be careless and neither give the double date, nor add the letters showing whether it was in the old or new style, and that often causes the genealogist much trouble and confusion. Cases of this will be found in the following history, where all that could be done to fix the date was by comparing it with surrounding data.

NOTE: It is stated above that March used to be called the first month. I found proof of this in the old Roxbury, Mass., Church Records, where on page seven is written:

"The First day of the Fowerth moneth Comonly Called June, 1639 this booke was bought."



## *Freeman*

“To become a freeman of the Colony, each person was legally required to be a respectable member of some Congregational church. This regulation was so far modified by Royal order in 1644, as to allow individuals to be made freemen who could obtain certificates of their being correct in doctrine and conduct, from clergymen acquainted with them. Persons were made freemen by the General Court of the Colony, and also by Quarterly Courts of the Counties. None but freemen could hold office or vote for rulers.” The first printing press in America was established at Cambridge, Mass., in 1639, and the first matter printed was the “Freeman’s Oath.”

## *Terms Used in Deeds*

Some of the deeds given in this history will be found to contain the following: “according to the manor of East Greenwich in the County of Kent in free and common soccage,” etc. This expression denotes that the land was to be free from the “law of entail,” by which the eldest son inherited everything, and was to be divided among all the children. The manner of holding lands in free soccage, now universal in this country, began at Plymouth in the early history of our nation.

## *Sailing Lists*

A search has been made of the Sailing lists of those leaving England for America, for the Bosworth names, but without success. The Bostwick Genealogy, in stating the fact that the name of Arthur Bostwick, the emigrant, had not been found on these lists, says: “This is of frequent occurrence when emigrants wished to leave no record of their destination, or whereabouts after fleeing from home.”

## *The Titles “Mrs.” and “Mr.”*

Early in the work of gathering the Bosworth records, I found the names of the wives of Henry, Bellamy, Samuel and Obadiah Bosworth, of Bristol, R. I., were given on the records as “Mrs. Phebe Eddy, Mrs. Esther Maxfield, Mrs.

Elizabeth Peck and Mrs. Mary Lawton." I supposed, of course, that they were widows, but when I found that Thomas Church had married "*Mrs.* Elizabeth Bosworth," and Thomas Lawton had married "*Mrs.* Mary Bosworth," knowing that they were unmarried Bosworth daughters, I began to investigate and learned that the Rev. John Burt, pastor of the church in Bristol, had put "*Mrs.*" before the name of every woman whose marriage he recorded, so came to the conclusion that the above mentioned were all single women. Later I found the following, which confirmed my conclusion.

"The title Mrs. was in olden time applied to unmarried as well as to married women and to young as well as old. Sir Walter Scott spoke of Joanna (unmarried) as Mrs. Joanna Baillie. Although it was not perhaps so universal to address quite young children as it was those over twenty-one by the title of Mrs., yet it was frequently done. The most ludicrous example of this occurs in the register of burials for the parish of St. Margaret, Westminster. The burial of Milton's second wife and that of his infant daughter named after her, who died at the age of five months, are both recorded in that register, the name in each case being entered as 'Mrs. Katherin Milton,' without any mark of distinction save the letter 'C' for 'child,' after the second name. Even in the reign of George II, as we read in 'Pope's Letters,' unmarried ladies used to be styled Mrs."

The term "Mr." before a man's name was not in common use in olden times as it is at present. It was considered a title of distinction, and only men of high character were allowed to use it. There are cases on record where men found guilty of unworthy acts were forbidden by Court to use "Mr." before their names.

---

In many places in the following pages will be found the terms "prob." for probably, and "abt." for about. I trust the reader will clearly understand, that the matter following these terms is not stated as a proved fact, but that it seems to me, after years of study on this family, to be the truth, although after searching diligently for proof I have been unable to find it. Hence it is stated subject to correction if in the years to come any evidence to the contrary should come to light.

## *Abbreviations*

abt.	about	gdn.	guardian
ae	age, aged	gen.	generation, genealogy
Adm.	Administration	Gen.	General
adm	admitted	grad.	graduated
Admr.	Administrator, Administratrix	g. s. r.	grave stone record
b.	born	hist.	history
bap.	baptized	inf.	infant, infantry
bro.	brother	intd.	interred
bur.	buried	inv.	inventory
cem.	cemetery	I. r. f.	Information received from
cer.	certificate, certified	m.	married, marriage
ch.	child, children, church	mo., mos.	month, months
C. H.	Court House	pres.	present
Co.	Company, County	prest.	president
Col.	Colonel, College, Colony	priv.	private
Com.	Commodore, Commissioner	prob.	probably
com.	committee	pub.	published in marriage
Corp.	Corporal	rec.	record, records, recorded
dau.	daughter	recd.	received
d.	died	res.	resides, resided, resi- dence
d. y.	died young	regt.	regiment
Dea.	Deacon	s.	son
decd.	deceased	Sergt.	Sergeant
Dept.	Department	t. r.	town records
disc.	discharged	tp.	township
div.	division	Univ.	University
enl.	enlisted	unm.	unmarried
et al	and others	w.	wife
Exr.	Executor	wid.	widow
Exx.	Executrix	y.	year, years



# Bosworth Genealogy



# First Generation







THE HISTORY of the Bosworth Family in America begins with Edward<sup>1</sup> Bosworth, who with wife Mary, left England\* in the spring of 1634, sailing from the port of Gravesend, near the mouth of the Thames, in the ship *Elizabeth Dorcas*. They had with them their sons, Benjamin and Nathaniel, possibly a son Edward (or Edmond), a daughter Mary, and her husband, William Buckland, and there may have been younger children, but I have found no record of any, and only a slight trace of the son Edward. An older son, Jonathan, had come to America a year or more before, and settled in Cambridge, then called "Newe Towne."

In Drake's *Founders of New England*, p. 69, we read: "The following extracts from the Records of the Council of State will show from what tyranny our fathers escaped in their native land:—'At White Hall the last of Feb: 1633. (This is O.S., being 1634 N.S.) Whereas by Warr<sup>t</sup> bearing date 22nd of this Present the sev<sup>r</sup>all ships bound for New England & now lying in the River of Thames were made stayer of untill further orders from their L'opps Viz<sup>t</sup>. the *Clement* and *Job*, The *Reformation*, The *True Love*, The *Elizabeth Bonadventure*, The *Sea Flower*, The *Mary & John*, The *Planter*, *The Elizabeth & Dorcas*,† The *Hercules* & the *Neptune*," etc. The account goes on to say that the masters of these vessels were called before the Council and put under bonds to observe certain rules regarding religious worship on the vessels, and

---

\* NOTE.—The New International Encyclopaedia, in giving a sketch of the History of Massachusetts, in writing of the Mass. Bay Colony, says: "The conflict between the Puritans and Charles I, brought about a large emigration to Massachusetts, and between 1630 and 1640 about 20,000 persons arrived in the Colony. Prejudiced by the fear that the Colony would become independent, the Crown demanded back the charter in 1634; but the colonists evaded the order, made preparation to resist, and were fortunate in having attention diverted from them by the political troubles in England."

† The italics are my own.—(Compiler.)

to carry no one without he had taken "both the Oathes of Alleigeance & Supremacy."

The voyage from England was a long and tedious one and many died on the passage and their bodies thrown overboard. In his *History of New England* [Vol. 1, p. 161], John Winthrop writes: "Divers of the ships lost many cattle; but the two which came from Ipswich<sup>1</sup> of more than one hundred and twenty lost but seven. None of the ships lost any passengers but the *Elizabeth Dorcas*<sup>2</sup> having a long passage and being hurt upon a rock at Scilly\* and very ill victualled, she lost sixty passengers at sea, and divers came sick on shore, who all recovered (through the mercy of God), except"—Here the story is ended abruptly owing to the decay of the manuscript. It is unfortunate, as the exception was probably that of Edward Bosworth, who died, as we shall see later, as the ship was sailing into Boston harbor. (There are two notes on the above extract, as follows: "1 *The Elizabeth*, Wm. Andrews master, and the Francis of which John Cutting was master, were the Ipswich ships. Names of 102 and 84 passengers, respectively, are printed in 3 Mass. Hist. Coll. X, 140-145. Probably several of the others were not known to the officers of the government or they would have been forbidden." And, "2 In this ship came Henry Sewall, father of the first Chief Justice, of the name of Samuel.")

The Diary of Samuel Sewall [Vol. 3, p. 396], has the following: "Edward Bosworth came over to New England in the *Elizabeth and Dorcas*, Capt Watts Comander. Mr. Ward, Mr. Bellingham, Mr. Bunker, Mr. Henry Sewall (father of Samuel Sewall) came in this ship. Went aboard at Gravesend; arrived here Ano 1634. Thirty were thrown overboard in the passage of the Calenture†. Edward Bosworth, the Father, being ready to dye, ask'd to be carried upon the Deck, that he might see Canaan. When he had seen the Land he resigned his Soul and dyed: was carried ashoar and buried at Boston."

---

\* The Scilly Isles are out in the main ocean, fifteen leagues from land. Moreover, the passage across is one of the worst known. Off the Land's End the English Channel and the Atlantic Ocean appear to come into violent conflict with each other, so that in the finest weather there is a heavy swell which is most uncomfortable.

† A medical term formerly applied to a tropical fever with acute delirium supposed to attack sailors in hot climates.



To all Christian people to whom these of yours shall come John Virdico of Rehoboth in the government of New  
Plymouth in New England Greeting Knowe  
ye that I the aforesaid John Virdico have for a good and valuable consideration

By me in hand Received and paid by Jonathan Bosworth Senr of Rehoboth aforesaid Silver with 3 the said John Virdico  
Sufficiently satisfied and contented and fully paid and thereof and thereunto due and payable and discharge the aforesaid Jonathan  
Bosworth for his heirs executors administrators or assigns for ever by these presents Have freely and absolutely bargained and sales in lawes  
and confirmed and by these presents the aforesaid Jonathan Bosworth Senr of Rehoboth aforesaid and my heirs John Virdico  
Jonathan Bosworth he his heirs and assigns forever A certain tract of fresh Meadow lying and being in Rehoboth aforesaid lying upon  
a Run commonly known by the name of Cheville Run By Towns Bridge that is to say over into the Neck being about an acre or less  
being bounded to the North by Meadow of Sampson Virdico to the east the River to the West the upland to the South the upland  
that lies by Towns Bridge to have and to hold the aforesaid tract of Meadow being an acre or less into the said  
Jonathan Bosworth at his lawe proper right to him his heirs and assigns forever thereby to have and to hold the said  
said lands against all and singular persons by whomsoever or otherwise claiming every right or title  
of or in the aforesaid premises And to the said John Virdico I do offer Covenant promise and grant to and with the said Jonathan Bosworth  
that it shall be lawful for him or his heirs executors administrators or assigns to and with the said John Virdico at the court of New Plymouth  
or any other place of his choice to purchase and take of the said John Virdico all my land and Seal the form of the  
May the the grace of our Lord our Saviour be forever with us  
In witness whereof I the said John Virdico have hereunto set my hand and Seal the first day of  
May 1636  
John Virdico

Witness my hand and Seal  
in the presence of  
William Carpenter  
Miner





It is evident that Edward having died and his wife being left a widow, she found it impossible—having come into a new and strange land—to sustain herself and family without assistance, for in Mass. Colony Records [Vol. 1, p. 123] we find the following: “At a Court holden at Newe Towne, [Cambridge] August 5, 1634 It was ordered that such moneyes as shalbe layde out for the mainetenance of Widd. Bosworth and her famyly shalbe payde againe by the Treasurer.”

It is also evident from the records, that Mr. Henry Sewall had loaned money to Edward Bosworth to assist him in the expenses of the passage for himself and family, and a year later the sons—Jonathan aged 22, Benjamin 20, and Nathaniel not quite 18, with the son-in-law, William Buckland, were obliged to pay the debt, for in the Records of Mass. [Vol. 1, p. 152] we find: “A court holden att Newe Towne July 7, 1635 . . . In consideration of money disbursed by Mr. Henry Sewall for the transportacon of Edward Bosworth and his ffamyly, it is ordered, that Jonathan Bosworth shall pay to Mr. Seawall the some of V£ upon the 29th of Septemb<sup>r</sup> nexte; William Buckland V£ on the said 29th of Sept<sup>r</sup>, Nathaniel Bosworth 1<sup>s</sup> (fifty shillings) att the said day, & 1<sup>s</sup> more that day twelue moneth; and Beniamyn Bosworth xxx<sup>s</sup> on the same 29th of Sep<sup>r</sup>, & iij£ x<sup>s</sup> att midsummer nexte; all theis somes to be paide to the said Mr. Seawall. Also, it is agreed, that the forenamed pties shalbe bound one for another for the payment of the said somes att the seual dayes of payem<sup>t</sup>.” (It will be seen that the entire sum paid amounted to twenty pounds, about \$100.)

The widow and family of Edward seem to have gone early to Hingham, which was then being laid out (Hingham was incorporated Sept. 2, 1635), where they were joined by the eldest son, Jonathan; at least, we find them all there in 1635.

It is to the Rev. Peter Hobart, first pastor of the Hingham church\*, that we are indebted for the faithfully kept records of the baptisms of the Bosworth children born there; and

---

\* An exterior and interior view of the Hingham church—the latter showing pews taken from the old building—may be found in Bosworth Bulletins, Nos. 1 and 2.

Rev. Peter Hobart graduated from Magdalen College, Cambridge, England, in 1625, and settled in Hingham, Mass., 1635; died there, 1679.



while we are very grateful to him for what he did, we wish he had gone a little further and told us in each case who was the *father* of the child baptized—as there were three Bosworth brothers attending church there at the time and having children baptized—not to mention our heartier thanks had he also written the name of the mother. However, with this desirable information in many instances not given, I have done the best I could—after years of earnest study of the subject, and the help of the wills of Jonathan and Nathaniel—to arrange these children in their proper places with correct dates. It is to these same records we owe the date of the death of Mary Bosworth, the mother; being recorded as follows: “May 18, 1648, Widow Bosworth died.”

The family of Edward<sup>1</sup> and Mary (—) Bosworth, as near as I can ascertain, at least all that I am sure of, was as follows:

#### CHILDREN, all born in England:

- 2 + i—MARY<sup>2</sup>, b. prob. abt. 1611; m. William Buckland.
- 3 + ii—JONATHAN<sup>2</sup>, b. 1613; m. Elizabeth (—).
- 4 + iii—BENJAMIN<sup>2</sup>, b. 1615; m. 1st (—); 2nd, Mrs. Beatrice Joscelyn.
- 5 + iv—NATHANIEL<sup>2</sup>, b. Sept. 4, 1617; m. Bridget Bellamy.

---

NOTE: As will be seen, I have not included an Edmond among the children of Edward<sup>1</sup> and Mary Bosworth. I am fully aware that Rec. of Mass., Vol. II, p. 5, states that at the “laying out of a plantation at Nantasket, *Edmond* Bosworth and Nathaniel Bosworth were assigned ‘house lotts . . . betwixt the two hills next Pedocks Iland,’ ” but as I have not been able to find any other mention of an Edmond, and as I know that *Benjamin* and Nathaniel received land at the above location, I have come to the conclusion, with which other genealogical students of the matter agree, that a mistake was made and it really should read Benjamin instead of “Edmond.” If the English history of the family is ever found it will settle this, and of course this conclusion may have to be changed.

## Second Generation







MARY<sup>2</sup> BOSWORTH, daughter of Edward<sup>1</sup> and Mary (—) Bosworth, born in England, probably about 1611, married there, WILLIAM BUCKLAND\*. They seem to have come to America with her parents, and at least two of her brothers, on ship *Elizabeth and Dorcas*, in the spring of 1634.

In 1635 "William Buckland had land granted him on the north side of Weary-all (Otis) Hill, Hingham, and a house-lot of five acres near the present R. R. station at West Hingham." [Lincoln's History of Hingham, Mass., Vol. 2, p. 96.]

Here they seem to have been joined by the rest of the Bosworth family—the widow Mary, the mother, and sons Jonathan, Benjamin, Nathaniel, and perhaps others. On July 7, 1635, the Court ordered that William Buckland and the three Bosworth brothers should pay to Henry Sewall, the £20 loaned by him to their father, Edward<sup>1</sup> Bosworth, to pay expenses of the voyage to America, each paying five pounds.

The eldest son of William and Mary (Bosworth) Buckland was Joseph, who, if his age at death is given correctly on his gravestone at Rehoboth, was born in 1633, hence was an infant at the time of their leaving England. There was also a daughter Lydia, of whose birth or baptism we find no record, so she, too, may have been born in England.

July 2, 1640, their second son, Benjamin, was baptized at Hingham, by Rev. Peter Hobart.

---

\* The name is variously spelled, Buckland, Buckline and Bucklin, but the first form is most used and seems to be the correct one.

There was a William Buckland in Boston in 1631, but I cannot find that he had any connections with this one, whom I believe came to this country in 1634 as stated. The former may have been the one, or related to the one, whom Savage says went to Hartford, Conn., and died there "13 May 1691."

*Sept. 22, 1652*, the Bucklands were still living in Hingham, for on that date the inventory on the estate of Capt. Bozone Allen, a merchant of Hingham, was taken, and among the names of many others who owed debts to the estate, was that of William Buckland of Hingham.

Probably about 1655, William and Mary (Bosworth) Buckland, with sons Joseph and Benjamin, and the daughter Lydia, with Mary's brother Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Bosworth and family (although they may have gone somewhat later), removed to Rehoboth, Mass. The earliest record of William Buckland found at Rehoboth is *May 19, 1656*, when "William Bucklin" was chosen "Grandjuryman."

*March 17, 1657*, "William Bucklin" was engaged "to enlarge the meeting house the bredth of 3 seats throughout & to find boards," etc. (This contract seems to have been canceled, as lines are drawn through it.)

*May 25, 1657*, William Buckland chosen constable.

The following may be found in Plymouth Colony records, [Vol. 2, Part 2, p. 1]: "Rehoboth in New England the 29th of the 8/57/ soe called Whereas William Buckland of Rehoboth was engaged to pay unto the Executors of John hazell deceased the some of three score and twelve pounds and whereas M<sup>r</sup>. John Clarke of Newport on Road Iland by the hand and providence of God Remaineth the sole exequitor vnto the said John hazell And Whereas the said M<sup>r</sup> John Clarke now in England hath given Authoritie by his power of Attornie unto M<sup>r</sup> Benedict Arnold of Newport on Road Iland and myselfe to discharge for the same and whereas M<sup>r</sup>. Arnold Aforesaid hath resigned his whole power unto myself by A Resignation under his hand which said Resignation is now in the hand of William Buckland I Roger Williams of Providence doe by these presents certify and acknowledge unto all men that I have Received full and compleat Satisfaction from the Said William Buckland for the Said Bond of three score and twelve pounds which hee stood Ingaged to pay for his land to the executors of John hazell aforesaid a full and absolute discharge to him his exequitors Administrators and Assigns about the paiment



aforsaid. In Atsuxance of the p<sup>r</sup>mises I sett my hand And  
Seale the day and yeare aforsaid.

Roger Williams

Signed Sealed and Delivered  
in the presence of Benjamine Bosworth  
Thomas Graunt  
Thomas Brand

I Acknowledge this  
to bee A true Coppy from  
the Originall  
Roger Williams."

"December ye 9th 1657

It is agreed upon betweene the Towne of Rehoboth & Leiften-  
nant Hunt & William Bucklin that ye said Leiftennant Hunt  
& William Bucklin is to shingle the new end of the meeting  
house & to be done as sufficiently as the new end of Goodman  
Paynes house & they are to find nails & to be done by May  
day next ensuring provided that the frame be up in season—  
In Consideration whearof theay are to have 8<sup>lb</sup> to be paid in  
good Marchantable wampam when their work is done."

Plymouth Colony Records [Vol. 7, p. 178], gives the name  
of William Buckland on a list of those who had taken the  
"oath of Fidelitie" in Rehoboth in 1658; also Jonathan  
Bosworth.

*June 22, 1658*, at a drawing of lots in the meadow on the  
north side of the town, "Will Bucklin" drew lot No. 46.

On the Old Proprietary Records of Rehoboth [Book 2,  
p. 81] may be found a list of "The Land of William Bucklin,"  
of which the following is an abstract:

*1st*—Six hundred acres of land bought of Edward Smith  
"bounded on Pawtucket River on the west & unto a run  
that comes from the Cedar Swamp on the east" . . .

*2nd*—Four acres of fresh meadow near the house bounded  
with the river on the east; . . .

*3rd*—Four acres of salt and fresh meadow bounded with the  
Pawtucket river on the west; . . .



*4th*—Thirty-three acres of “Upland butting upon Pawtucket river on the west . . . upon the lands of Thomas Cooper Sen. on the east” . . .

*5th*—An acre and a half . . . “Pawtucket river on the west” . . .

*6th*—Two acres and a half in the same range with John Reade . . .

*7th*—Six acres of land “that was John Millards and six acres that was the Widow Walkers” . . .

*8th*—One “plaine Lott” . . . twenty-two acres on the east side of the “great plaine,” the land of Thomas Cooper, Sen. on the east, the highway on the west . . .

*9th*—One lot on the east side of the plain, ten acres, “the River to the east the highway the west” . . .

*10th*—One lot on the west side of the plain, ten acres, butting on the highway upon the east . . .

*11th*—Sixteen acres of land which “I had the Last division of Land ten acres I exchanged with Jonathan Bliss for his two plaine Lotts and six acres I did exchange with the towne to carry my fence Streight betwixt the great plaine and my owne Land.”

*12th*—“Two plaine (lots) which I had of Jonathan Blisse in exchange” containing twelve acres . . .

*13th*—A piece of fresh meadow, two acres . . . “syding on a Run within my owne Land east, next to the second division,” etc.

---

*April 30, 1659*, “At a towne meeting lawfully warned Jonathan Bosworth, George Robinson & Benjamin Buckland were chosen troopers for the townes use for the terme of three yeares during w<sup>ch</sup> tyme they are to find themselves horses & all other furniture belonging to there place as shalbe required of y<sup>m</sup> for y<sup>t</sup> servis during the foresaid tearme & to attend upon the foresd servis at the writ of the majors warrant & to

free the towne from all damages y<sup>t</sup> do arise through there neglect."

NOTE: As Benjamin Buckland was about 19 years old at this time, it is probable that all three were young men, so no doubt it was Jonathan<sup>3</sup> Bosworth, Jr. who was one of the "troopers."

In Plymouth Colony Records [Part 2, Vol. 2, p. 66], there is the following: "dated the first of September 1659

The present writing Beareth witnes that there is a purpose of marriage intended between Joseph Buckland of Rehoboth and Deborah Allin of the same plantation now for some (word not legible) moving mee hereunto I William Buckland of Rehoboth Doe promise to give sign and sett over att present one third part of all my lands both upland and meadow with all the priviledges ptaining to it that I enjoy in Rehoboth to be my son Josephs proper Right for ever to him and his wifes for ever also

2condly I doe promise to build the said Joseph a convenient house for his comfortable living with three score acres of land adjoining to it within one year and to be Josephes and his wifes and their heires for ever.

3ly I doe promise that after mee and my wifes decease that the said Joseph shall have and enjoy so much more land both upland and meddow as shall make up the full halfe of what I doe now possesse in Rehoboth

4ly I doe promise to give to my son Joseph after the decease of mee and my wife half of all my goods and Stocke that I have both within dores and without to be his forever only I doe Reserue in my hands out of Josephes estate five pounds to bee att my Dispose now for the true and faithful pformance heerof I the said William Buckland doe bind my selfe and heires exequitors and assignes in the sume of two hundred pounds firmly by these p'sent writing. In witness heerof I have sett to my hand and Seale

The signe of  
William Buckland

In presence of  
Richard Bowen  
Robert Martin."



Also in Vol. 3, p. 117, "Be it known unto all men by these presents That I William Buckland of Rehoboth in the Colonie of New Plymouth have of my owne free will and Consent and for good Reasons moving thearvnto given to my son Benjamin Buckland the third p'te of my Land in Rehoboth that is now in being or any that I the said William shall purchase or possesse either ther or elsewhere this Land mentioned is both upland and meddow in the severall p'sells where it lyeth excepting my English pastures p'te att home by my dwelling house which pasture is foure acres more or lesse and the other p'te of the English pasture in the feild neare Patuckett River falls. The quantities of land now in English grasse and that I doe Reserve to myself for that purpose is ten acres both pastures being fourteen acres more or lesse I the said William Buckland doe except from the aforsaid graunt of the third p'te furthermore I the aforsaid William doe reserve to myself ten acres of plow land now in Tillage Reconed old land neare the salt water at Patuckett; further I the said William doe freely give to my son Benjamin one third p'te of my orchyards on this condition That the said Benjamine be Injoynd to make and maintaine half the fences to these orchyards the fences to be made sufficient; further I the said William Buckland doe hereby engage my son Benjamine not to sell his p'te of land now bequeathed to him in this deed but firstly to offer it to his brother Joseph provided that he will give for it as much as any other These Considerations and exceptions being allowed by my son Benjamine I the said William Buckland Then hereby Confirme To my Son Benjamine to have and to hold To possesse and Injoy for himselfe and his heirs exequitors and Adminnestrators and Assignes forever In witnes wherof I have sett to my hand and seale this 18th of Aprill in the yeare of our Lord one Thousand Six hundred sixty and foure 1664

The mark W of William Buckland  
And a seale

Signed sealed and delivered  
in the presence of  
William Lord  
Lydia Browne



The original Records of the Town of Attleboro [p. 1], has the following:

“Whereas in the yeare one thousand Six hundred Sixty & Six a purchase of Lands made by the Inhabitants of Rehoboth and the Neighbourhood of Annimosett. The said Lands Sittiuatte one the North Side of the Towne of Rehoboth of M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Prince Esquire Major Josiah Winslow Captaine Thomas Southworth Agents for the Goverment of New Plymouth The bounds of the Said lands fully appearing by a Deed of Sale made by the aforesaid gentellmen to the Purchasers thereof: Bearing date the 10th of Aprill 1666: which deed hath been inroulled at the Court of New Plymouth according to order of Court: The bounds of the Said lands as followeth (Viz) by a River caled Patukett river one the West and up the said River unto the Massachusetts line . . .

There being Seenty Nyne whole shares and a halfe . . .

The Names of the Purchasers with there Rights To the Said Lands before mentioned are these (noe man Contradicting) as are here expressed in this following List:”

“M<sup>r</sup> John Myles one whole share”

“William Buckland one whole share”

“Joseph and Benjamin Buckland each one share”

“John Cobley one whole share that he had of his father Jonathan Bosworth.”

“The aforesaid list and the preface to it was universaly agreed upon at a Meeting of the purchacers May the 28th 1672 . . . William Carpenter Clerke.”

*May 26, 1668*, lots were drawn for the meadow lands in the North Purchase, and William Buckland drew lot No. 58.

*Feb. 5, 1671*, there was another drawing, and William, Joseph and Benjamin Buckland each drew lots. William's was No. 35.

King Philip's War, which began in June, 1675, and lasted for a year, cost the colonists about 600 lives, 600 buildings burned, and 13 towns destroyed. The money cost was esti-

## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

mated at \$1,000,000. Among those who advanced money to sustain it from Rehoboth were the following:

	£	s.	d.
Joseph Buckland	6	3	0
William Buckland	2	9	0
Benjamin Buckland			
with a loss of a gun	4	3	10.

And this was not all the Buckland family contributed, for Benjamin was slain on March 26, 1676, with eight others, at a place afterward called "Nine Men's Misery."

*Feb. 20, 1678*, William Buckland "of the town of Rehoboth government of New Plymouth in New England," deeds to "Jonathan Bosworth, Senior" of Rehoboth, a lot "of upland in Wachamoket Neck . . . twelve acres . . . the twenty day of February In the year of our Lord one thousand Six hundred Seventy and eight." (As this was February and yet isn't double dated, it may be O.S., which would be 1679 N.S.)

"October ye 22d 1680 Land was laid out to William Bucklen, and a Comittee was Impowered by the Town to agree with Bucklens Respectting a highway to the Salt water for the Cattle to go to Drink." [Copied from "Proprietors of Rehoboth—Meetings" at Taunton.]

*May 1, 1682*, when Nathaniel<sup>2</sup> Bosworth and Benjamin Jones first bought land in New Bristol, as it was then called, William "Buckline" was one of the witnesses to the deed.

WILLIAM BUCKLAND died in Rehoboth, and was buried there Sept. 1, 1683.

MARY BUCKLIN, a widow, buried in Rehoboth, July 29, 1687. (These dates are from the original Rehoboth Records.)

In November, 1684, Joseph Buckland was appointed administrator on the estate of William Buckland. In Plymouth Colony Records [Vol. 6, Court Orders, p. 18], we find: "Joseph Buckland, planter," gives bond for £100 as



## SECOND GENERATION

“Administrator on the Estate of William Buckland of Rehoboth lately deceased.” Dated November, 1684.

NOTE: The Genealogical Dictionary of New England, by Savage, [Vol. 1, p. 285], under BUCKLAND, gives: “William, Hingham 1635, rem. to Rehoboth 1658, and was bur. 1 Sept. 1679. A d. of his m. John Brown, jr. of R.”

Although I dislike differing with Savage, it will be seen by the above history that this William Buckland was a resident of Rehoboth as early as 1656, when he was chosen a “Grandjuryman.” As for his death, it surely did not occur until 1683, when according to Rehoboth records, he was buried on September 1st, and his son settled his estate in 1684.

As it has been stated in various places that William Buckland died, or was buried, Sept. 1, 1679, which could not be, as we see from above history that land was laid out to him in October 1680, and the Rehoboth records plainly state that he was buried in 1683, I should like to bring to the attention of genealogical students a statement of how I believe this mistake has sometimes occurred.

In the Supplement to Vital Records of Rehoboth, published by James Arnold, 1897, there are transcripts from the Plymouth Colony Records of “Beirthes, Marriages and Burialls of the Towne of Rehoboth.” These begin with the year 1673 and follow each other in proper order, each year by itself, but separated into above classes, until the close of 1679; then comes a page of records of the three classes (Beirthes, Marriages and Burialls), but without any year given; then 1680 follows. Among these records with no year given is found William Buckland “buried the 1st of Septem.” Following as they do the year 1679, I feel sure that many persons have supposed they belonged to that year (I did myself in the early years of my work and so copied them), and so have given his burial as occurring in 1679, when the fact is they should be dated 1683, as any one taking time to compare the data, name for name, with the Rehoboth records, as I have done recently, will soon be convinced.

I am aware that this cannot account for the error made by Savage, for his book was published long before the one by Arnold, which makes me believe the mistake is at Plymouth, which belief is strengthened by the fact that following “Burials for 1680,” Arnold gives what the clerk at Plymouth wrote, as follows:

“Let none marvell att the promiscuous and disorderly setting downe of the names of such as are, or may be married, or doe, or may be born, or may dye; for they are sett as they were brought to mee as disorderly as they are sett downe. If the Courts order had bin minded respecting this matter, they had bine otherwise placed then they are.”

The published records of Plymouth Colony, Vol. 8, p. 88, also gives the date of the burial of William Buckland, as 1679, but Vol. 6, p. 145-6 gives the following:



## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

Court orders.

Att a generall court of his Majestie holden att Plymouth, in New England, the 28th of October, 1684.

Before Thomas Hinckley, Esq, Gou'r, and	Daniel Smith,
William Bradford, Esq, Deputie Gou'r,	Barnabas Laythorpe,
John Aldin,	John Thacher, and
John Freeman,	John Walley,

Assistants, &c.

Know all men by these p'sents that I, Joseph Buckland, planter, doe acknowledg myselfe to be indebted unto the Gou and Court of Plymouth in the penall sume of one hundred pounds; for the payment whereof well and truely to be made, I doe heerby bind my selfe, my heires, executors, and adminestrators, feirmly by these p'sents. Sealed and giuen the first of November, 1684.

The condition of the abouewritten obligation is such, that whereas the aboue bounden Joseph Buckland hath obtained of the Court of Plymouth letters of adminnestration to adminnester on the estate of William Buckland, of Rehobeth, late deceased, if, therfore, the said Joseph Buckland shall and doe pay, or cause to be payed, all such debts and legacyes as were dew and owing to any att the decease of the said William Buckland, and keep a due and faire accoumpt of his adminnestration, and be reddey to giue in the said accoumpt unto the Court when by them required, and saue and keep harmles the said Gou and Court from any damage that may acrew to them, or any of them, by his said adminnestration, that then the next abouewritten obligation to be void and of non effect, or otherwise to remaine in full force, strength & vertue.

---

### CHILDREN

of William and Mary<sup>2</sup> (Bosworth) **BUCKLAND:**

- 6 + i—LYDIA<sup>3</sup> BUCKLAND, b. prob. in England; m. 1st, about 1655, John Brown, Jr.; m. 2nd, William Lord of Saybrook, Conn., where she died.
- 7 + ii—JOSEPH<sup>3</sup> BUCKLAND, b. prob. in England, June 26, 1633; m. Nov. 5, 1659, Deborah Allen; d. in Rehoboth, March 26, 1718.
- 8 + iii—BENJAMIN<sup>3</sup> BUCKLAND, bap. in Hingham, Mass., by Rev. Peter Hobart, July 2, 1640; m. Rachel Wheatland; slain by the Indians, at Nine Men's Misery, March 26, 1676.



ONATHAN<sup>2</sup> BOSWORTH son of Edward<sup>1</sup> and Mary (—), was born in England in the year 1613. The first record found of him in America is at Cambridge, Mass. (then called Newtowne); the history says:

“Jonathan Bosworth was here in 1632. In 1635 he owned a house and land on the westerly side of Garden St., not far from the Botanic Garden. He probably left early. It would seem that he was son of Edward Bosworth and had brothers, Nathaniel and Benjamin, and a sister who married William Buckland.” [*Hist. of Cambridge*, Paige, p. 493.]

In a list of the inhabitants living in Cambridge in 1633 is found the name of Jonathan Bosworth; a footnote reads: “Removed to Hingham.” The original record reads: “The 7th of January 1632,\* Comon Pales deuided as ffollo.” Over forty names are given and among them, “Jonath Boswth 2 Rod.” Also, “The 5th of August Lotts Granted for Cowyardes.” A list of twenty-eight names follows, with the amounts set opposite, among them “Jonah Bosworth 1 rood.” Also, “The 4th of August 1634 . . . Lots granted in Westend, . . . To Jonatha Bosworth 2 Ackrs.” Also, “At a Gennerall Meeting of the whole Towne the 20th of August 1635. It was ordered that William Spencer and George Steele should measure all the meadow ground undeuided belonging to the Newtowne and when it is Measuere and deuided to every man his proporcion they are to: measuer every mans severally and Cause Stakes to bee sett at each end and to have three pence the Acker for the same and whosoever shall not pay for measueringe wthin one yeare then the ground to

---

\* This date is, of course, O.S., and means the same as 1633 N. S., for the entry just before it is dated “24th December 1632.”

There is a tradition among the Jonathan descendants that he came to America on the ship “*Mary & John*,” but I have not been able to find any records that would corroborate this.



returne to them for measueringe. ffurther it is ordered that the same shalbe deuided acordinge to every seuerall proportion herevnder written vntell it is all disposed off viz." Among seventy others is found: "Jona. Boswth  $\frac{1}{2}$ ." (Meaning one-half acre, I suppose.) Another entry reads: "The 10th of October 1635; . . . Jonathan Boseworth. In westend: one house with backside aboute Two acres John Maynard NorthWest Joseph Eaton Southwest Edmond Hunt Southeast the Comon northeast."

In a book, "Ancestors and Descendants of Gregory Stone," by J. Gardner Bartlett, pub. in Boston, 1918, may be found on p. 51, a map of Cambridge showing the lots as originally laid out; one marked VI, of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres, held by Thomas Parrish, in Sept. 1642, "was originally granted to Jonathan Bosworth and Robert Day (2 acres each)." It is located in what was called the "West End," and was on the west side of Garden street, opposite the "Cow Common."

From the fact that Jonathan owned a house and lot at this time it is natural to suppose he was a married man. Some writers have stated that he had a first wife named Susannah, and if such was the case, he was presumably living with her at Cambridge. However, I have not been able to find one item in the old records that would indicate such a conclusion; and from this fact, also that he had no daughter or granddaughter named Susannah, but did have one—his eldest—named Elizabeth, after the one whom we know to be his wife later, I very much doubt the statement. Whether he had a wife when he came from England, or married her in Cambridge, I have no means of knowing, neither of the birthplace of his eldest son, Jonathan Bosworth, Jr., whether in Cambridge or Hingham.

It was while Jonathan was still living in Cambridge—and probably the rest of the family—that he was called on to pay his share of the money borrowed by his father, of Henry Sewall, as "Ordered by Court," July 7, 1635 [Records of Mass., Vol. 1, p. 123], and told of on the preceding pages, under the history of Edward<sup>1</sup>.

Some time between October 10, 1635, and April 3, 1636, Jonathan must have removed with the others to Hingham, Mass., for on the latter date we find him assigned a house lot





The several parcels of land and meadow layeth  
 given unto Jonathan Bosworth by the Towne of Hingham  
 Given unto Jonathan Bosworth by the Towne for a house  
 lot two acres of land buttiny upon Battefall street eastward  
 bounded with the land of Mr. John Barker westward and with  
 the land of Mr. Henry Mullill southward lying in a fuyngler.  
 Given unto Jonathan Bosworth by the Towne for a great  
 lot two acres of land lying upon the great plaine in  
 the first furlong to the westward of the Gentles bounded  
 with the land of William Gorge southward and with  
 the land of John Tower northward buttiny upon the  
 highway eastward and westward  
 Given unto Jonathan Bosworth by the Towne for a  
 house lot five acres of land buttiny upon the Towne  
 street eastward buttiny upon the Common northward and  
 bounded with the land of Thomas Lincolne Cooper north  
 ward and with the land of Joseph Cooper southward.  
 Given unto Jonathan Bosworth by the Towne one acre  
 of fresh meadow lying in a little meadow as you goe  
 to weymouth mill bounded with the meadow of Joseph  
 Andrews westward and with the Common eastward north-  
 ward and southward.  
 Given unto Jonathan Bosworth by the Towne one acre  
 of fresh meadow to the southward of the glad tidings rectory  
 by payers bridge bounded with the Common land southward  
 and eastward and with the great lot westward and  
 northward.  
 All the above said parcels of land and meadow given unto  
 Jonathan Bosworth were given unto him and his heirs  
 for ever to have more or less as they were measured.

REPRODUCTION OF THE RECORD OF JONATHAN BOSWORTH'S  
 LAND AT HINGHAM, MASS.

## SECOND GENERATION

of five acres in this new settlement. (The first mention of Hingham in the records was made Sept. 2, 1635.) On the opposite page is shown a photo of one page of the old "Record Book of Hingham," where a list of the property assigned to him is given, and knowing how difficult it would be for anyone unfamiliar with this old writing to decipher it, I give it here:

The severall parsells of land and meadow legally  
given unto Johnathan Bozworth by the Towne of Hingham

July  
1637

Given unto Johnathan Bozworth by the Towne for a house  
lott two acres of land butting upon batchellor streett eastward  
bounded with the land of william Large westward and with  
the land of Henery Tuttill southward : lyeing in a tryangle

Aprill 3  
1636

Given unto Johnathan Bozworth by the Towne for a great  
lott tenn acres of land lyeing upon the great playne in  
the first furlong to the westward of the Center: bounded  
with the Land of William Hersye southward and with  
the Land of John Tower northward: Butting upon the  
highwayes eastward and westward

Given unto Johnathan Bozworth by the Towne for a  
house lott five acres of land butting upon the Towne  
streett eastward : butting upon the Common westward and  
bounded with the land of Thomas Lincolne Cooper north  
ward and with the land of Josiah Cooper southward.

Given unto Johnathan Bozworth by the Towne one acre  
of fresh meadow lyeing in a little meadow as you goe  
to weymoth mill: bounded with the meadow of Joseph  
Andrews westward. and with the Common eastward north-  
ward and southward.

Given to Johnathan Bozworth by the Towne one acre  
of fresh meadow to the southward of glad tidings rock  
by paiges bridge bounded with the Common land southward  
and eastward and with the greatt lotts westward and  
northward.

all the abovesayd parsells of land and meadow given unto  
Johnathan Bozworth were given unto him and his heirs  
forever be they more or less as they were measured



Jonathan must have sold the two-acre house lot within the next three years, for on March 2, 1640, Clement Bates of Hingham sold a two-acre house lot which was located on Bachelor street (now Main), to John Stoddard, Senr. of Hingham, bounded with the land of William Large on the west, with the land of Henry Tuttle on the south, and "abutting vpon Batchilors street Eastward which said house Lott was formerly Jonathan Bozward of Hingham aforesaid."

On the same date Clement Bates also sold to John Stoddard Senr., the "great Lott" of ten acres "formerly given by the town of Hingham to Jonathan Bozward"; William Woodcock of Hingham, one of the witnesses. On October 15, 1700, this same "great Lott of ten acres" that he had bought of his brother John, was sold by Sergeant Samuel Stoddard to Theophilus Cushing, formerly belonging to Jonathan Bosworth "lying at a place called the Great Plain in sd Hingham in the first furlong of lotts y<sup>t</sup> lyeth to y<sup>e</sup> Westward of the Center or Country roadway."

On December 10, 1675, Thomas Nichols, of Hingham, sold to his son Ephraim Nichols, Seaman, "all that his house lott containing five acres of Land be it more or less which hee the said Thomas Nicholls heretofore purchased of Jonathan Bozworth, which sd house Lott lying and being in Hingham aforesd. is bounded with the Town Street Eastward and with the Lotts of Hockley feild westward and with the Land of Daniel Lincoln formerly the Land of Thomas Lincoln Cooper Northward and with the land of Thomas Lincoln Carpenter . . . Southward," etc.

NOTE: It may be well to explain that there were so many Thomas Lincolns living at Hingham at this time that, in order to distinguish them, the occupation of each was added to his name. Abraham Lincoln was descended from this Hingham family.

Lechford's Manuscript Note Book, kept by a lawyer of Boston, from June 27, 1638, to July 29, 1641, has the following:

In a suit of Thomas Hett, of Hingham, against Thomas Shave [Footnote sayd Thomas *Shaw*, of Hingham.] Action brought 4. 4. 1639. "[1 s. Jonathan Bosworth & Benjamin Bosworth witnesses for the Plt.]" (See also Benjamin's history.)

## SECOND GENERATION

“Jonathan Bosworth of Hingham, taylor, aged about 26 yeares, maketh oath that Thomas Shave about the beginning of the fifth moneth 1637 upon occasion of conference betweene him & this Deponent about a parcell of ground in Hingham conteyning about 5 acres then kept from him told this depont that he had promised to give halfe therof to Thomas Hett for to help him to obteyne the possession of the said ground and at another time this deponent was present when the said Thomas Het and Thomas Shave talked together of the said promise whereof this deponent remembreth this passage that Thomas Hett asked the said Thomas Shave whether he would be as good as his word, he said Yes. Then sayd Thomas Hett you are like to have yo<sup>r</sup> ground againe but when you have it againe I doubt you will be unwilling to let me have halfe of it Noe said Thomas Shave you shall have the one halfe if ever I get it and I shall be glad of the other halfe. [6 d.]” (I imagine this last means he received sixpence for testifying.)

The town of Hull, including the peninsula of Nantasket, was incorporated in 1644. Hingham laid claim to some of the land; these lands by a vote of the General Court were granted to Nantasket. Some of the inhabitants of Hingham questioned the justice of the Court in taking these lands from them. In the Massachusetts Archives may be found the following deposition:

“That which wee *Jonathan Bosworth*, doe testifie Concerninge m<sup>r</sup> Pecke his Speech is this, That wee heard hime Say, That pride and malice were the foundation that sett vs a worke about nantascett, and if that were the foundation it would easily apeare What the buildinge would be; alsoe that we did conspire together about it, and it was like vnto those that Conspired together to kill Paule.

Moreover wee doe testifie Concerninge *Edward Hubbard*  
Senior, that he did say that it was Vniust [unjust] thinge to  
take away nantascett, and they might as well have giuen  
away their house Lotts vp to there dores as have giuen away  
nantascett from them               Witnesses Jonathan Bosworth  
Thomas Gill

This is testified vppon oath the XXX of the 5th moneth 1641  
Jo Endecott dept Gov.”



Rehoboth, Mass., to which place Jonathan Bosworth removed some time between 1650 and 1658, was one of the four original townships of Bristol county; it was settled in 1644 and included what is now Attleboro, North Attleboro, Seekonk and Swansea in Massachusetts, and in Rhode Island all the lands east of the Blackstone river and Narragansett Bay, namely Cumberland, Pawtucket, East Providence and Barrington. As the life of Jonathan and his descendants is so inseparably connected with this region, even to the present time, a brief sketch of its history will no doubt be of interest. I therefore take the liberty to quote from "Rehoboth, In Brief Review," by Edgar Perry. "The first purchase of Rehoboth land was made of Massasoit in 1641 and embraced a tract 10 miles square, comprising the present towns of Rehoboth, Seekonk, Pawtucket and East Providence. The second purchase was the tract called English Wannamoiset, forming a part of Swansea and Barrington. The third and last purchase was a tract embracing the present towns of Attleboro, North Attleboro and Cumberland, R. I., known as the Rehoboth North Purchase." The first record on the town books was made Oct. 24, 1642. Although a few had taken up farms in "Seaconk" (the original Indian name), or Rehoboth, in 1641 and 1642 "there seems to have been no organization of the settlers until 1643, and no occupation of the new territory with the families, churches and schools until 1644. . . . In 1645 the Commissioners of the United Colonies assigned the new settlement to Plymouth Court and it was incorporated by the scriptural name of Rehoboth, signifying 'room.' It was selected by Rev. Mr. Newman, who said 'The Lord hath made room for us.' "

Rev. Samuel Newman was Rehoboth's first pastor. The first departure from his church "was a forced one, and the dissenting members united with John Myles in founding the First Baptist Church at Swansea." It was probably about this time that Jonathan's eldest son, Jonathan Bosworth, Jr., was led to join this new sect, which act greatly disturbed his parents, so much so that they soon afterwards executed an instrument disinheriting him unless he return to the fold. This he seems never to have done, but to have made his home in Swansea where he and his family were numbered among



the "Anabaptists,"\* as they were then called. The town of Swansea was incorporated in 1668 and "then included within its limits the present towns of Somerset, Barrington and the greater part of Warren, R. I. . . . Rev. John Myles was driven out of England because he refused to submit to the act of conformity, and founded the first Baptist church in Massachusetts, at Swansea. His flock came from Wales, and the old record book of the parish . . . has its earliest pages written in the Welsh language." The town was named from Swansea, Wales.

Rehoboth was the largest town of Plymouth Colony. "The first free public school supported by general taxation was created by the foresight of Rehoboth freemen."

King Philip's war "began and ended within the limits of ancient Rehoboth." It was the frontier town of Plymouth Colony during the war. "All this region was originally in the domain of Massasoit, the fast friend of the English. It was inherited by the son, Wamsutta, and from him passed to his brother, Metacomet, or King Philip. The proximity of Rehoboth to King Philip's headquarters at Mt. Hope, and the fact of its being the heritage of his forefathers, exposed this frontier settlement to the brunt of savage ferocity and vengeance. In apprehension of dangers the colonists were gathered into three garrisons. . . . The third of the three houses was none other than the residence of the famous Baptist divine, John Myles, and this is standing intact today [1894], near Myles' Bridge in Swansea. Its walls are of stone, several feet in thickness, and altogether it is one of the oldest and most unique houses in the state. The brick for the chimney was brought from England. King Philip's war begun with the attack at Myles' bridge in Swansea and ended with the capture of Anawan in Rehoboth."

The first reference to Jonathan Bosworth after he removed to these parts, seems to be the one given in Plymouth Colony Records [Vol. 7, p. 178], where in the year 1658 his name appears in a list of "such as have taken the oath of Fidelitie in the Towne of Rehoboth."

---

\* It should be explained that, although the term "Anabaptist" is here used, the English sect "had nothing in common with the German Anabaptists, except the practice of adult baptism."

*April 8, 1661*, Jonathan Bosworth was witness to a deed given by "Wamsetta, alias, Alexander, chief Sachem of Pokanokett," to Capt. Thos. Willett and his associates of "The Rehoboth North Purchase." [Hist. of Rehoboth, Bliss, p. 51.]

*April 18, 1661*, Jonathan Bosworth, Senior, of Rehoboth, sells 12 acres of land and one acre of fresh meadow in Hingham to Daniel Cushing; the 12 acres being land he had bought of Joseph Phippen, bounded by lands of Matthew Cushing, Simon Burr and highways; the one acre of fresh meadow was near Paige's Bridge, given him at the laying out of the town. The price received was thirty shillings. This deed was personally acknowledged in Boston before William Stoughton, June 15, 1672, John Jacobs and Thomas Barnes, witnesses.

*July 3, 1663*, "It was voted and concluded that Nicholas Ide should have the playne Lott y<sup>t</sup> formerly was Intended for Goodman\* Bosworth Lyeing upon the west syde of the playne It was given him in consideracon of w<sup>t</sup> he wanted of his former alottment." [Reho. Rec.]

*April 10, 1666*, the town of Rehoboth purchased land lying on the north of the township, on the west of the Pawtucket river; it was called the "North Purchase," and was divided into 79½ shares and sold to the inhabitants; the list of purchasers and the number of their shares "was universally agreed upon at a Meeting of the purchacers May the 28th 1672," William Carpenter, Clerke. On this list we find:

"Mr. John Myles, one whole share;"

"William Buckland, one whole share;"

"Joseph and Benjamin Buckland each one share;"

"John Copley, one whole share that he had of his father Jonathan Bosworth." † [Rec. of the Town of Attleboro.]

*April 20, 1666*, "Jonathan Bosworth, Seni<sup>r</sup>. of Rehoboth, Taylor," deeds his house and lot in Rehoboth, which he had bought of "his brother Benjamin," to Stephen Paine. Deed ack. June 5, 1672.

---

\*"Goodman" in those days was "a title implying worth and respectability."

† As there has been doubt expressed in some cases as to the fact that John Copley married a daughter of Jonathan Bosworth, I was thankful for this find.



## SECOND GENERATION

*May 26, 1668*, Jonathan Bosworth's name was No. 25 in the list of those who drew meadow lands in the "North Purchase."

*March 18, 1668/9*, occurred another drawing of lots in the "Rehoboth North Purchase," (now Attleboro), and Jonathan Bosworth drew lot No. 66.

*May 26, 1672*, Jonathan bought one acre of fresh meadow, of John Woodcock; the following is a copy of the deed:

To all Christian People to whom these pesents shall come John Woodcoke of Rehoboth in the government of New Plymouth in New England—Sendeth greeting—*Know ye* that I the aforesaid John Woodcoke have for a good and Valuable consideration By me in hand Received and paid by Jonathan Bosworth Sen. of Rehoboth aforesaid Wherewith I the said John Woodcock doe acknowledge myself Sufficiently satisfied contented and paid and thereof and every part and parcel doe exonerate aquit and discharge the aforesaid Jonathan Bosworth he his executors administrators or assigns forever by these presents *have freely* and absolutely bargained and sold infeeffed and confirmed and by these pesents do bargain sell infeeffe and confirm from me the said John Woodcoke and my heirs to him the said Jonathan Bosworth he his heirs and assigns forever A certain trackt of fresh Meadow lying and being in Rehoboth aforesaid Lyeing upon a Run comonlye knowne by the name of The Mille Run. By Bowens Bridge that goeth over into the Neck being about an aker be it more or less Being Bounded To the North the Meadow of Sampson Mason To the east the River To the West the upland: to the South the upland That lyes by Bowens Bridge

*To have and to hould* the aforesaid Tract of Meadow. be it an aker more or less. unto the said Jonathan Bosworth as his own proper right to him his heirs and assigns forever Therby does and of right acostumed and waranting the sale hereof against what people soever from by or under me the said John Woodcoke or by my right or tittell claiming any right or titell of or in the aforesaid Premises and I the said John Woodcoke doe allsoe Covenant promise and grant to and with the said Jonathan Bosworth That it shall be lawful for him or his attorney to record or inrolle the tittell and tenur of these pesents at the Court of New Plymouth or any other place of Records. In wittness whereof I the said John Wodcoke have hereunto set my hand and Seall the twentyesix day of May In the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred seventy and two

John | Wodcoke

in the pesence of  
William Carpenter  
Nicholas Ide

(This deed, a photograph of which is here given, is in the possession of Mrs. Carrie Bosworth Reed, Worcester, Mass., a descendant of Jonathan Bosworh, Sr.)



“At a Town Meeting Lawfully Warned the 28th of May 1672

At the same Day the Town only acting it was voted and agreed upon that goodman Bozworth Sen<sup>r</sup>. Shall have a small Tract of Land against his meadow on the Neck provided he Leave a Sufficient Passable way from the bridge so the Highway that Runs through M<sup>r</sup>. Brown's Land that was Last Laid oute to Come into the Neck the Tractt of Land to be Bounded by the way and M<sup>r</sup>. Browns Land and his owne medow.” [From “Proprietors of Rehoboth Meetings.”]

*June 15, 1672*, Jonathan was in Boston where he had gone to acknowledge a deed given to Daniel Cushing of land in Hingham, sold him on April 18, 1661.

*Nov. 1, 1676*, “In reference to the estate of Nathaniel Pecke, deceased, the Court ordered that Jonathan Bosworth, Sen., and Samuel Pecke shall administer on said estate, there being two children, a son and daughter, . . . the estate to be undivided until they come of age or choose their own guardian.” [Plym. Col. Rec.]

(Samuel Peck was brother, and Jonathan Bosworth, Sen., the father-in-law, of Nathaniel Peck, the latter having married Deliverance Bosworth, and both had died the previous year leaving two children.)

*Feb. 20, 1678*, William Buckland “of the town of Rehoboth government of New Plymouth in New England,” deeds to Jonathan Bosworth Senior of Rehoboth, a lot of upland in Wachamoket Neck, twelve acres. Also on the same date, Joseph Buckland of the same place, sells to Jonathan, a lot of upland in Wachamoket Neck in Rehoboth, 26 acres. (These two deeds are also in the possession of Mrs. Reed.)

Somewhere about this time a record was made on the Old Proprietary Records of Rehoboth, now at Taunton, [Book 2, p. 128] of “The bounds of The Lands of Jonathan Bozworth Sen.”

*Imprimis*, my house lot containing twentye akers be it more or less being bounde. To the Northward Mr. James and Mr. John Browne Land To the westward the land of The children of Nathaniel Peck To the Eastward a highway





I do knowe unto all men by these, I shew that I, Jonathan Ben worth  
Sencior of the Towne of Rother in the County of Rutland in his Majesty  
Territory and Dominion of New Shalms: Borne weake and aged with through the  
governe of care of a competent measure of understanding and memory doe for  
the glory of gods and the comfort and peace of my dear wife and Children and  
settling of that good estate that god hath given me, make this my last will and  
Testament this twenty fourth day of September Anno dom. 1586

It is my desire to humbly resigne up my Soule into the hands of my dear Redeemer  
the Lord Jesus Christ; And it is my will that my Body be decently Buried

After I have and bequeath unto my deare and Beloved wife the first use and improvement  
of the Reme of my estate if I now dwell in with the one half of my barne. orchard  
and home Lote and the improvement of any other land and meadow that is now in my hands  
that I have not formerly disposed of with the residue thereof. During her Natural life  
and likewise if I give and bequeath unto my dear wife all my household goods and Corn  
and all the cattell of every kind that I have at my decease to be wholly at her disposal

I give unto my eldest Son Jonathan five shillings to be paid by my Son Joseph within  
a year after my decease: I have also given my said Son a good portion of  
Lanes and other estate to a good value; more than I was able.

I do give and bequeath unto my Son Joseph the other end of my house and the one  
half of my Barne and orchard and the other half of my house Lot and Lands in  
which amoseth nook of which I have formerly given him an. I have also given my  
hand and Seal. and do hereby confirm the same to him his heirs and assigns  
I do give and bequeath unto my daughter Anne the residue of my said Son Joseph the whole







## SECOND GENERATION

2dly ffifteen akers of Land be it more or less in Wachamocket neck laid out first to Jacob Ormsby and purchased of his widdow being bounded Southerly The land of Mr. James and Mr. John Browne. To the Northward The lot laid out to Widdow Hall a Highway Runing acrose the Easterly end of The lot To the Westward a Highway

3dly twelve akers and ten rod of upland be it moore or less in Wachamocket neck purchased of William Bucklane a highway runing through the Easterly end of it being boundeth To the Southward The land of Jonah Palmer To the Northward the land of George Robinson To the Westward the next Range of Lots. To the Eastward a highway.

4ly twentye six akers of land be it more or less in wachamokett neck purchased of Joseph Buckland eight akers lyeing the fourth Range most of it lyeing upon a triangle and eighteen akers of it in the begining of the first Range Bounded to the Southward The land of Richard Bowen and Sampson Masons To the Northeast a Highway.

5ly one aker of Land be it more or less given me by the Towne Lyeing Neare The bridge bounded Southward a highway To the Eastward my owne Meadow Westward a highway. Northward the land that was laid out to Mr. James & Mr. John Browne.

6ly one aker of Meadow be it more or lesse which I purchased of John Wodcok Sen being bounded Easterly the River Westerly my owne land Northerly to the meadow of Widdow Mason."

---

Of the twenty acres mentioned in "Imprimis," Jonathan never received a deed, but after his death the deed was made out by Israel Peck, his son-in-law, to Jonathan's son Joseph, to whom he had willed his property, as will be seen later.

The following instrument by which Jonathan and his wife, Elizabeth, expressed their serious disapproval of the course their eldest son, Jonathan Bosworth, Jr., had taken in joining the "Anabaptists," may be found recorded in Plymouth, [Vol. 5, p. 137.]



## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

"This writing witnesseth that I Jonathan Bozworth with my wife Elizabeth Bozworth have given and doe give unto my son Joseph Bozworth half of my house lott with the east end of my Dwelling house and half my Barne and two lotts adjoining in Wathchamositt Neck on that was Joseph Bucklands excepting that part that ye highway cutts of which is six or eight acres the Town Records shows And another which was Jacob Amesberies with two Cowes fair with Calfe and the use of the Teames to doe his work and mine so long as I shall see cause or till he hath of his owne, this at ye present, but for his Brother Jonathan he shall have nothing to doe with anything I have except he decline from that opinion of ye Anabaptists which he now holds the 30th day of ye 10 month 1680.

By me Jonathan Bozworth Senior  
and my wife Elyzabeth Bozworth

Signed sealed amd Delivered in ye presence of  
Daniel Smith  
Esther Smith

Jonathan Bozworth Senior and Elizabeth his wife personally appearing owned and acknowledged this instrument to be their voluntary and free act and deed the 13th of March 1681 before me Daniel Smith."

It appears that Jonathan's abhorrence of the act of Jonathan, Jr., in joining the Baptists was such that he would not call him son, but mentions him as Joseph's "Brother." However, he must have relented somewhat, for on March 26th of the following year he deeded to "Jonathan the younger of Swansea," land in "the North side of the Township of Rehoboth," which Jonathan, Jr., afterward mortgaged, as will be seen later.

*March 1, 1680/1*, "Libertie of adminnestration is graunted vnto Jonathan Bosworth, Sen<sup>r</sup>, to adminnester on the estate of John Cobley, deceased."

*March 1, 1680/1*, "This Court graunteth libertie vnto Jonathan Bosworth, Sen<sup>r</sup>, and Samuel Pecke, adminnestrators on the estate of Nathaniel Pecke, late deceased, to make sale of a peece of land containing eight acres and an halfe, lying next to M<sup>r</sup>. Anthony Lowes land, vpon the necke of land called Phebeys Necke, and the comonage on the New Meddow Necke, with the addition of the forty rodd, all which belonged to the said Nathaniel Pecke, deceased."

## SECOND GENERATION

*Oct. 28, 1681*, Same administrators as above, granted liberty, "to make sale of a small psell of salt marsh, being the fourth pte of a ten acree lott lying att Papasquash, or Mount Hope Necke, for the vse and benifitt of the children of the aforsaid Nathaniel Pecke."

In Plymouth Colony Records [Vol. 7, p. 202-209], is given a list of the names of the freemen of the Colony of New Plymouth, taken by Nathaniel Morton, Sec'y; Anno 1683-84. On it we find:

Rehoboth,—Jonathan Bosworth, Sen., and Joseph Bosworth.

*March 8, 1686*, Jonathan received another share in the meadow lands of the "Rehoboth North Purchase," a description of which is given on p. 165 of Book 1 of the "Records of the Town of Attleboro," as follows,—"a lot or share of fresh meadow Lyeing and Being one the West Side of the ten-myle River being a share in the second tens. Being bounded Southerly. the meadow of Leftenant Peck: North-erly the meadow of Jarrett Ingraham, westerly the upland: Easterly the River."

About the year 1903, in the attic of the old Bosworth home in Barrington, R. I., was discovered a bundle of legal papers, yellow with age, that had been handed down from generation to generation, apparently unopened. They were found by the widow of Leonard Smith<sup>8</sup> Bosworth and given into the hands of her daughter, Mrs. Carrie Bosworth Reed. On opening them they were found to be papers of great value to genealogists; some of them deeds showing relationships that had formerly been in doubt, and others of deep interest, but best of all the will of Jonathan Bosworth, Senior, dated February 24, 1686-7. It had evidently never been probated, but kept in the family of the son Joseph, the executor, who had no doubt carried out its provisions. A photo of this will is here given, which reads as follows:

Be it known unto all men by these presents that I Jonathan Bozworth Senior of the Towne of Rehoboth in the County of Bristoll in his Majestys Teritorey and Dominion of New England: Being weake and aged yet through the goodness of god of a competent measure of understanding and memrye doe for the glory of god and the comfort and peace of my deare



## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

wiffe and Children. and settelling of that small estate that god hath given me, make this my Last will and Testament this twenty-fourth day of ffeabuary Anno dom . 168<sup>6</sup><sub>7</sub>.

Imp. It is my desire to Humbly resigne up my Soule unto the Hands of my dear Redemer the Lord Jesus Christ: And it is my will that my Bodey be decently Buried.

Item. I Give and bequeath unto my deare and Beloved wiffe the ffree use and Improvement of the Romes of my House y<sup>t</sup> I now dwell in with the one halfe of my Barne . orchard and home Lot . and the improvement of any other land and meadows that is now in my hands that I have not formerly disposed on with the proffits thereof . during her Naturall liffe and Likewise I give and bequeath unto my deare wife all my Houshold goods and Corne and all the cattell . of every kind . that I have at my decease to be wholly at her dispose

Item. I give unto my eldest son Jonathan five shillings to be paid by my son Joseph within a yeare after my decease: ; I having already Given unto my said son a good portion of Lands and other estate to a good value : more than I was abell.

Item. I doe give and bequeath unto my son Joseph the other end of my house and the one halfe of my Barne and orchard and the other halfe of my house Lot and Lands in wachamoket neck of which I have formerly given him an Instrument under my hand and seale and doe herby confirme the same to him his heires and asigns forever : And Likewise I doe give and bequeath unto my said son Joseph the other part of my house barne orchads house lott and all the other uplands and meadows that I have given my deare wiffe the improvement and whole proffit of during her natural life . after my wifes decease to him his heirs and asignes forever to be fully possessed of.

Item. I give unto my daughter Rebeka Peck five shillings to be paid within a year of my decease.

Item. I give unto my daughter Bethia Peck five pounds to be paid within a yeare after my decease:

Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Batsheba five shillings to be paid within a years after my decease:

Ittem. it is my will that in Consideration of what I have given my son Joseph in possession and what he is to possess after his mother decease that my said son Joseph shall pay or cause to be paid the above given Legasye to my son Jonathan and my above mentioned daughters.

Item. It is my will that my deare wiffe shall be executrix and my son Joseph executor to this my Last will & testament : To the confirmation of this my Last will I have hereunto afixed my Hand and Seale the day and yeare above written

Signed Sealed and acknowledged

The mark of

Jonathan

Bosworth

B

In the presence of us

James Brown

Enoch Hunt

William Carpenter





Burialls of Rehoboth 1688. 84  
 Ruth Kennick the wife of Ebenezer } 1688  
 Kennick Buried the 31<sup>st</sup> of October }  
 Hephia Salmon Buried the 1<sup>st</sup> of January } 1688  
 Margitt Hittman the wife of Jacob Hittman }  
 Buried the 10<sup>th</sup> of February } 1688  
 William Don Buried the 11<sup>th</sup> of March } 1688  
 Nathaniel Palmer Buried the 14<sup>th</sup> of March } 1688  
 Sarah Tilton the wife of Silas Tilton Buried } 1688  
 the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 1688 - - - 17<sup>th</sup>  
 Buried the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 1688  
 Buried the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January 1687  
 Buried the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 1689



## SECOND GENERATION

Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Bosworth, Sr., died at Rehoboth, Mass., January 3, 1687-8.

Elizabeth, wife of Jonathan Bosworth, Sr., died at Swansea, Mass., perhaps at the home of her son Jonathan, Jr. The record reads, "Elizabeth Bozworth Departed this life June the 15th in Swanzy Being Almost ninty one years of Age In the year 1705."

NOTE: In Arnold's Vital Records of Rehoboth it is stated that Jonathan Bosworth, Jr., died in Rehoboth Jan. 3, 1687. Knowing that this must be a mistake, first, because Jonathan, Jr., did not live in Rehoboth, but in Swansea; second, because Jonathan, Sr.'s will is dated one month later than this; and third, because I found a deed made by Jonathan, Jr., at a subsequent date; I visited Rehoboth in 1921 and personally examined the old, original records, and found the name to be as I had surmised, written very plainly, "Jonathan Bozworth Sen.<sup>r</sup>" The date as given is 1687, but here no doubt the recorder neglected to put in the double date (see Double dating in Explanations), for at the top of the page is written: "Deaths for the year 1688." His death occurring before the 25th of March, 1687 O.S., the date should no doubt have been written January 3, 1687-8, as given above, for he certain did not die one month before making his will, and that, as may be seen, is double dated. I have had a photograph of this page made and a reproduction is here given, but as the paper of the old book is yellow with age, the photograph came out very dark, and the writing is not as clear as desirable.

### CHILDREN

of Jonathan<sup>2</sup> and Elizabeth (——) Bosworth:

- 9+ i—JONATHAN, JR.,<sup>3</sup> b. about 1636; m. July 6, 1661, Hannah Howland.
- 10+ ii—ELIZABETH,<sup>3</sup> bapt. in Hingham, Nov. 18, 1638; m. \*Sept. 6, 1661, Peter Brackett.
- 11+ iii—REBEKAH,<sup>3</sup> bapt. in Hingham, Feb., 1641; m. Nicholas Peck.
- 12+ iv—BETHIAH,<sup>3</sup> bapt. in Hingham, Jan., 1644; m. July 15, 1670, Israel Peck.
- 13+ v—MARY,<sup>3</sup> bapt. in Hingham, Apr. 18, 1647; m. John Copley.
- 14+ vi—DELIVERANCE,<sup>3</sup> bapt. in Hingham, Aug. 4, 1650; m. Nathaniel Peck.
- 15+ vii—JOSEPH,<sup>3</sup> b. prob. in Hingham; m. Feb. 10, 1680, Esther Smith.
- 16+ viii—BATHSHEBA,<sup>3</sup> m. (prob.) Benjamin Jones.

---

\* This date has been given Aug. 7, 1661, but as the old record reads: "7th mo. 6th," and March at that time was the first month, the above date must be correct.

Although Joseph and Bathsheba are placed as the youngest in this family, having no dates of their birth, I cannot be sure that this order is correct.

See Benjamin history for more about Elizabeth.







BENJAMIN<sup>2</sup> BOSWORTH, son of Edward<sup>1</sup> and Mary (—), was born in England, in the year 1615. He came to America in 1634, in the ship *Elizabeth Dorcas*, with his parents, his sister Mary with her husband, William Buckland, also a brother, Nathaniel, and possibly an Edward. His father having died as the ship was entering Boston harbor, Benjamin probably went soon afterward with his mother and brothers to Hingham.

In 1635, according to a record made by his own pen in a letter written in 1699 (this letter given later), he was employed by Israel Stoughton, in Dorchester, probably at the place which for the following 100 years was the homestead of the Stoughton family, on the corner of Pleasant street and Savin Hill avenue.

July 7, 1635, at a court held at Newtowne (now Cambridge), Benjamin was called on, in company with his brothers, Jonathan and Nathaniel, and his brother-in-law, William Buckland, to pay money borrowed of Henry Sewall by their father, Edward, to help out with the expenses of their passage to America. Benjamin was directed to pay five pounds in two installments—thirty shillings on the 29th of September of that year, and three pounds, ten shillings, at “midsummer” of the next year.

Benjamin was probably married about 1636 and settled in Hingham, for at that time he was first given land there, as the following from the Town Record shows:\*

---

\* In a little book about Nantasket, published in 1830, in a list of those who received grants of land, the statement is made that Benjamin Bosworth had a grant of land in Hingham in 1635. However, the Town Records are as given.

## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

- ~
 The severall parcells of land and meadow legally  
 given unto Benjamin Bozworth by the towne of Hingham
- 1636      Given unto Benjamin Bozworth by the Towne for a house  
 lott five acres of land Butting upon the Towne street  
 northward and upon the Common southward: bounded with  
 the land of William Walker eastward and with the  
 land of John Winchester westward:
- 1637      Given unto Benjamin Bozworth by the Towne for  
 a planting lott: three acres of land lying in Broad  
 Cove feild. bounded with the land of francis smith  
 eastward. and with the land of Nicholas lobdin west  
 ward: Butting upon the salt marshes southward:
- June 10      Given unto Benjamin Bozworth by the Towne one  
 1637      acre and halfe of salt marsh . lyeing in weymoth  
 meadow . bounded with the meadow of George barton  
 eastward: and with the meadow of francis smith west  
 ward . and with the river southward and with the upland  
 northward.
- Given unto Benjamin Bozworth by the Towne  
 for a greate lott tenn acres of land: lyeing upon  
 nutty hill . Bounded with the land of Andrew lane  
 southward and with the land of Thomas Gill north  
 ward and with the Common eastward & westward  
 all the above sayd parcells of land and meadow  
 were given unto the afore sayd Benjamin Boz-  
 worth to him and his heirs for ever    be it more  
 or less as it is measured.
- ~

*June 4, 1639*, Benjamin was a witness for the plaintiff in the law suit of Thomas Hett against Thomas Shave, both of Hingham. Suit tried in Boston. His testimony was as follows:

“Benjamin Bosworth of Hingham, planter, aged about 24 yeares maketh oath that Thomas Shave about the beginning of the fifth moneth 1637 upon occasion of conference betweene him and this Depont about a parcell of ground in Hingham conteyning about 5 acres then kept from him the said Thomas told this Depont that he had promised to give Thomas Hett halfe thereof for to help him recover the same and the said Thomas Shave said further that when he did get the said ground Thomas Het should have halfe of it w<sup>th</sup>



1636

Given unto Benjamin Bosworth by the Towne of Hingham  
two acres of Land lying upon the north side of the Towne  
left five acres of Land lying upon the Towne street  
northward and upon the Common Square ward bounded by  
the land of William Atwater eastward and with the  
land of John Winchester westward.

1637

Given unto Benjamin Bosworth by the Towne for  
a planting lot five acres of Land lying in the  
house field bounded with the land of Francis Smith  
eastward and with the land of Nicholas Lobain west  
ward: lying upon the salt marshes southward.

1637

Given unto Benjamin Bosworth by the Towne one  
acre and a half of salt marsh lying in the  
meadow bounded with the meadow of George Barton  
eastward and with the meadow of Francis Smith west  
ward and with the river southward and with the  
northward.

Given unto Benjamin Bosworth by the Towne  
for a greater lot ten acres of Land lying upon  
the mill bounded with the land of Andrew Lang  
southward and with the land of Thomas Gill north  
ward and with the Common eastward and westward  
all the above said parcels of Land and meadow  
were given unto the afore said Benjamin Bosworth  
to him and his heirs for ever but it more  
or less as it is measured.

1647

Given unto William Chapman by the Towne of Hingham  
two acres of salt marsh on the north side of the  
Given unto William Chapman one acre of salt marsh  
at Cony's point its lot 20<sup>th</sup> lot in the first division bounded  
with the meadow of John Morris southward and with the  
meadow of Clement Bates northward and with the Towne  
land eastward and with the Currier westward: with an  
acre of meadow is in part of satisfaction for meadow given  
him at Nantasket.

1647

Given unto Thomas Smith by the Towne of Hingham  
two acres and a half of salt marsh lying at Cony's point its lot  
30<sup>th</sup> lot beyond the river next Thomas Barnes  
it is the fifty lot in the number of the third division and is bounded with the marsh  
of Thomas Barnes eastward and with the marsh of Thomas Barnes  
westward and with John Williams land northward and with the land that runs  
between the Hingham marshes southward.





## SECOND GENERATION

heart & good will and that he the said Thomas Shave should be glad of the rest himselfe & prase God for it. [6 d.]”

---

The above was taken from a Manuscript Note Book kept by a lawyer of Boston, named Thomas Lechford, which book has also the following record, which I copy verbatim:

“Benjamin and Nathaniell Bosworth charge bills upon Joseph Bosworth of Coventry\* in the County of Wa<sup>rk</sup> shoemaker for tenne pounds to be paid by Thomas Lund of London leatherdresser or his assignes upon 20 dayes sight. (1 s.)

A bond to pay it accordingly by Will<sup>m</sup> Buckland carpenter & Thomas Turner of Hingham. (1 s.)

A writing for Counter security All dated 1 Sept. 1640.”

It was during this interval of time that Benjamin’s two children—Benjamin<sup>3</sup> and Mehitable<sup>3</sup>—were baptized in Hingham, in April, 1647, by Rev. Peter Hobart. From the fact that they were both baptized on the same date, it has been thought they were twins, but this does not necessarily follow.

The record in the original reads as follows:

1647		Benjamin and Mehitable Bozworth Baptized.
April 6		

NOTE: The name of Benjamin’s first wife is not known, and as no date of their marriage, or of her death can be found on any of the public records, it will probably never be known. It is, however, interesting to speculate as to what her name may have been.

It is supposed that a daughter of Benjamin<sup>2</sup> married Capt. Robert Goold, of Hull, as in the will of the latter, Benjamin Bosworth is called grandfather of his children. On the Goold gravestone at Hull (to be reproduced later), her name is given Elizabeth, born Nov. 18, 1638; but this is, I feel confident, the name and date of baptism of the eldest daughter of Jonathan<sup>2</sup>. We know that the wife of Jonathan was named Elizabeth, and as it was often a custom to name the first son after the father, and the first daughter after the mother, it seems to have been followed in this case. After spending years of study on the Bosworth family, I have come to a conclusion, entirely satisfactory to me, that the Elizabeth baptized

---

\* It is probable that Joseph Bosworth of Coventry was either an uncle or an elder brother of Benjamin and Nathaniel.



## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

November 18, 1638, was a daughter of Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Bosworth, who married Peter Brackett of Braintree, Mass., August 7, 1661; a corroboration of this being that every one of the names of her children are found in the family of Jonathan.<sup>2</sup> Therefore, I have so placed her.

If, as is generally accepted, Robert Gould did marry a daughter of Benjamin<sup>2</sup> Bosworth, it probably was Mehitable. Two facts add weight to this conclusion: the first being that Elizabeth was seven years *older* than Robert Gould (she was one year younger than Peter Brackett), while Mehitable was two years *younger*; and the other that Robert Gould had two granddaughters named Mehitable. Hence, it is pretty safe to conclude that such was the case. Following up the above line of argument we may *surmise* that Benjamin's first wife, the mother of his children, was named Mehitable, and this may sometime be brought to light by following this clew.

The next record we find concerning Benjamin was on *Nov. 21, 1650*, when in an inventory on the estate of Robert Button, in a list of persons owing the estate "Pettie Debts," the name of "Benjamin Boseworth" appears.

*July 21, 1653*, Benjamin Bosworth was a witness, with Nicholas Baker, to the will of John Bibbill "of Molden in New England being now of Hull." As Benjamin at this time is called "of Hull," he must have either removed to Hull previous to this time, or the land upon which he lived had been set off to the township of Hull, which was incorporated in 1644.

NOTE: As two of the first Bosworth brothers, Benjamin and Nathaniel, had their homes in Hull, the following, taken from Gazetteer of Mass., by John Hayward, pub. 1846, is of interest:

Hull "is celebrated for its beautiful beach four miles in length, and for its shell-fish and sea-food. The town lies between two hills of fine land, near Point Alderton, opposite Boston light-house. It is nine miles . . . from Boston by water, and twenty-one by land, via. Hingham. It is by no means 'an inconsiderable town' as some closet gazetteer writers tell the world. Such people had better look about them. Hull was a mart of commerce and the residence of eminent men six years before Boston bore its present name."

*April 10, 1656*, Nauhawton (an Indian), deeds to Thos. Loring, John Stone, Nicholas Baker, Benjamin Bosworth, and the inhabitants of the town of Hull, "All that my Neck of Land comonly called by the name of Nantascut which neck is now called the town of Hull," five miles in length. Acknowledged in Boston, by Nauhaughton, July 12, 1683.

## SECOND GENERATION

In one of the Record Books at Hull, entitled, "A Record of the Lands and Meadows, Highways, etc., given and granted in the Town of Hull, 1657," (p. 19), I find a description of the lands given to Benjamin Bosworth. The following is a list of these lands briefly described:

"The lands and tenements of Beniamine Bosworth  
First one home Lot of two acres more or less as it was measured Lying northeast and southwest the towne street" . . .

---

more halfe a home lott containeinge one acer more or lesse as it was measured lying east and west the sound. . . .

---

more one lott of meadow containeinge two acers more or lesse as it was measured lying east and west by the Straights River. . . .

---

more twoe lotts at Alderton hill being three acres more or lesse. . . .

---

more one lott at Peddocks Island being fouer acer more or lesse. . . .

---

more halfe a lott at Peddocks Island containing two acers. . .

---

more one lott of meadow lying at Peddocks Island conteining two acers. . . .

---

more one lott at strawberry hill conteininge three quarters off an acer. . . . Thomas Loring on the south. . . .

---

more one lott at Strawberry hill conteininge three quarters of an acer. . . . the steep bank on the South. . . .

---

more one lott at Sagamore hill conteininge three quarters of an acer. . . .

---

more one lot at Whitehead conteininge one acer. . . .

---

more halfe a lott about halfe an acer lying at the very west poynt of Whitehead. . . .

---

more a proportion off land at Hogge Island fifteen Score and teun rods which was before in eleven Lotts lying north. . . ."

---



*Oct. 29, 1657*, (in the original "29th of the 8th 1657") Benjamin must have been in Plymouth, for on this date he was witness to a discharge of "Bond for three score and ten pounds," given by Roger Williams of Providence, acting as executor of the estate of John Hazell, deceased, to William Buckland; the latter having bought land of John Hazell, in Rehoboth. [Plym. Col. Rec.]

*May 25, 1658*, In answer to a petition of Benjamin Bosworth, by the payment of ten shillings, a fine of forty shillings was remitted for not warning the freemen of Hull on the right day to give in their proxies for the nomination of persons for election. [Rec. of Mass., Vol. 4, Pt. 1, p. 322.]

*Sept. 9, 1659*, Benjamin and Nathaniel Bosworth named in a list of those owing debts to the estate of Martin Stebbins of Boston, "Vitualler." [New Eng. Hist. Reg., Vol. 32, p. 318.]  
*1663*, In "Early Court Files," at Boston Court House, may be found the following [Case No. 25037]:

"Benjamin Bosworth aged forty eight or thereabout testified and say that I being at A generall cort at Boston when nantaskit was granted for a plantation the magistrates and deputies being assembled there was expressed in words Brewsters Ilands to belong to nantaskit with Slate Iland the slate to be free for the use of the contry and further saith not."

*Apr. 20, 1666*, Jonathan Bosworth, "Seni<sup>r</sup>. of Rehoboth, Taylor," sold land he had bought of "his brother Benjamin." [Plym. Deeds, 3-224.]

*May 24, 1666*, In a list of the Freemen of the New England Colony, who took oath on this date, "Ben. Bosworth, Hingham," appears.

(This may be found in N. E. Hist. Reg., 3-239, also in Rec. of Mass., 4-582; but I do not understand it, for Benjamin had been called "of Hull," for several years.)

— —, *1667*, At a Town meeting of Hull—It was further ordered that "beniamin bosworth abraham Jones & John Lobdell" be a committee to bring to pound all horses found on the Neck.



## SECOND GENERATION

In 1668, in a division of lots on "the south side of the hill," (probably Strawberry Hill), "Beniamine Bosworth 2 lott." Also, "Lotts on the Common, Beniamine Bosworth two Lotts."

At a Town meeting held in Hull in 1670, "Beniamine Bosworth" was appointed one of five to have charge of the "prudential affairs" of the town.

In 1670, in the order of the laying out of lots at Slate Island and Sheep Island, the first beginning at the southeast, "Ben. Bosworth" was given lot No. 29. [Hull Rec.]

*Sept. 15, 1671*, "Benjamin Bosworth, Sen<sup>r</sup>. of the town of Hull, alias Nantasket," being about to be married to a second wife, deeds to his son: "Know yee that I the said Benjamin Bosworth Sen<sup>r</sup>. for and in consideration of the natural affection & goodwill which I bear unto *my only son* Benjamin Bosworth and Hannah his wife and for other good causes," etc., deeds "unto my said son Benjamin Bosworth, and to the heirs of his Body which are or may be lawfully begotten, . . . . two lots of land at Strawberry Hill, one lot at Whitehead, one half lot at Petoks Island, one half of my meadow at said Island, an acre at Hogg Island, and his right of two Cowes Commonage on the Neck, . . . . in case he decease before his said wife and leave no issue surviving, that notwithstanding, my said dear daughter-in-law Hannah Bosworth, the wife of my said son Benjamin Bosworth shall have and enjoy all these my said lands . . . . all the dayes of her life, . . . . my said son Benjamin Bosworth, Jun<sup>r</sup>. . . . . And that my said daughter-in-law Hannah Bosworth his wife doe enjoy those several parcels of land with their Rents . . . until her death." Signed

Benjamin Bosworth, Sen<sup>r</sup>. and a Seal.

In presence of  
Zachariah Whitman  
John Prince, Sen<sup>r</sup>.  
Nathaniel Bosworth

Ack. May 1, 1673. [Plym. Deeds, 4-116.]

In another deed executed on the same date, "Benjamin Bosworth Sen<sup>r</sup>. of the town of Hull, yeoman, in consideration

of the Natural affection & goodwill which I bear unto my only son Benjamin Bosworth of the town aforesaid . . . . yeoman, and for other good causes, mee thereunto officially moveing," deeds a parcel of land in Hull—two acres, "commonly called Hitts lot, lying at the end of the Towne Land . . . . towards Point Allerton," [Plym. Col. Rec., 4-120.]

*Nov. 16, 1671\**, Benjamin<sup>2</sup> Bosworth, Sen., was married in Lancaster, Mass., to Mrs. Beatrice Josselyn, widow of Abraham.

NOTE: It has long been a question as to whom Beatrice was before her marriage to Abraham Josselyn, and some writers have made the statement that she was Beatrice Houghton, but the question is set at rest once for all by the following, taken from the N. E. Historical and Genealogical Register (Vol. 71, p. 254):

"Beatrice, widow of Abraham Joscelyn, whom Segt. Benjamin Bosworth married, was a daughter of Philip Hampson, citizen and merchant tailor of London, who in his will, dated 2 June 1654, and proved 4 July 1654, makes bequest to his daughter, Beatrice Josselyne, her husband Abraham Josselin, and their children," etc. (An abstract of this will is given in Vol. 47, p. 419, under "Gen. Gleanings in England.") Beatrice was born (according to Vol. 71, p. 254), in England, about 1623. The names of nine children of Abraham Josselyn are given, but the eldest is thought to be the son of a former wife. Abraham "died at sea, off the coast of Virginia, in the ship *Good Fame* of New York, between 16 Mar. 1669/70, when he made his will, and 7 Apr. 1670, when his will was proved, at Ft. James, Province of New York." They resided at Hingham, Mass., Scarborough, Me., and Lancaster, Mass., "which was his residence until his death." "Beatrice (Hampson) Josselyn survived her husband and married (2) at Lancaster, Mass., 16 Nov. 1671, Serg<sup>t</sup>. Benjamin Bosworth." Abraham was a mariner, born in England about 1619. "It is not known when he emigrated to New England, but he lived first at Hingham, Mass." After her marriage to Benjamin, Beatrice removed to his home in Hull.

The following is an example of what some of the early inhabitants of our land had to face in order that this country could be settled:

Abraham Josselyn, eldest son of Abraham and Beatrice, was killed by the Indians early in the morning of Feb. 10, 1675-6, in an attack on Lancaster. The people had taken shelter in the fortified house of Rev. Joseph Rowlandson, but the Indians set it on fire and the people had to either perish in the flames or "resign themselves to the savages." All the men but one were slain, among them Abraham Josselyn. Among the women and children taken captive was his wife Ann, and little daughter, Beatrice.

---

\*"1671, 9, 16 Benjamin Bosworth and widow Beatrice Joslin married." (From Early Records of Lancaster: Nourse.) The ninth month being November at that time, makes the date—November 16, 1671.



## SECOND GENERATION

Mrs. Rolandson, who was one of the captives, met Mrs. Josselyn about thirteen days later, in the hands of the Indians, at a place now New Brantree. "She was in great distress being near confinement and having in her arms her little daughter Beatrice, then nearly two years old." Later Mrs. Ronaldson heard that she and her child "were stripped by the Indians, knocked on the head and cast into a fire, where they miserably perished." Some captive children who saw it told Mrs. Ronaldson that Mrs. Josselyn did not "shed a tear, but continued in prayer until death put an end to her sufferings."

*May 7, 1673*, "Benj: Bosworth" of Hull, "made and admitted to freedome." [Rec. of Mass., Vol. 4, Part 2, p. 587.]

*Mar. 9, 1673/4*, In a list of names of the townsmen of Hull, "Seriant Bosworth." On the same date, under "Charges of the town of Hull for Beacon, Watch House, &c.": "The Wardas:—first, Benjamin Bosworth, seniour, 17 days." [N. E. Hist. Reg., Vol. 16, p. 44.]

*May 12, 1675*, At a meeting of the Mass. Bay Colony held in Boston: "In ans<sup>r</sup> to the peticon of Benjamin Bosworth, the Court judgeth it meete to grant his request, so as the land desired & mentioned in his peticon exceed not twenty acres, and that it be in this Courts power to dispose of, and not belonging to any toune or person." [Rec. of Mass., Vol. 5, p. 38.]

*Feb. 1, 1677*, At Town Meeting in Hull, "the pond called Duck pond with the beach y<sup>t</sup> coms athert from y<sup>e</sup> stony beach over to the northeast end of gallops hill was given & granted by a full vote of the proprietors & inhabitants of the town of Hull unto Nathaniel Bosworth Sen<sup>r</sup> & Junior, *Benjamin Bosworth Sen<sup>r</sup>*. [and to thirteen others named] for the erecting of a corn grinding mill for the use of this town of Hull & not otherwise to be Appropriated."

*Sept. 3, 1677*, Benjamin Bosworth Senior of Hull, yeoman, deeds to his "only son Benjamin Bosworth Jun<sup>r</sup>. of Hull," land in Hull.

In presence of

Nathaniel Bosworth

Nathaniel Bosworth Jun<sup>r</sup>.

Benjamin Bosworth Sen<sup>r</sup>.

And a

[Seal]



## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

*Nov., 1678*, "Sergt. Benj<sup>a</sup> Bosworth, Hull," and Benjamin Bosworth, Hull (prob. Jr.), on list of those who had taken the "oath of Allegiance." [Boston Records.]

*Dec. 20, 1678*, The will of Thomas Loring of Hull was witnessed by "Beniamine bosworth, Seniour" and Robert Goold. "Benj<sup>n</sup> Bosworth Senio<sup>r</sup> and Rob<sup>t</sup>. Goold made oath before Simon Bradstreet Esq<sup>r</sup>. Dept. Gov<sup>r</sup>. and Edw<sup>d</sup>. Tyng Esq<sup>r</sup>. Assist<sup>t</sup>. 12 march: 1678-9" that they saw him sign. [Loring Genealogy.]

John Loring in his will, bequeathed "a piece of salt medow at Pettuks Island which was formerly Benjamin Bosworths." (Same.)

At a Town Meeting held in Hull "Beniamin Bosworth Senior" chosen to "view the fences" for the year 1679.

*Mar. 1, 1679*, He was chosen one of five "to order the prudentiall affairs of the towne for this yeare 1680." [Hull Rec.]

At a meeting of the Mass. Bay Colony, held at Boston, *May 19, 1680*, on list of "Freemen made at y<sup>e</sup> Session," is found the name "Benj: Bosworth" of Hull. [Rec. Mass., Vol. 5, p. 539.]

*July 6, 1680*, "Att the Court of his Ma<sup>tie</sup> held att Plymouth for the Jurisdiction of New Plymouth, Beniamine Bosworth, Sen<sup>r</sup>., of Hull, in the Massachusetts collonie, complaineth against John Turner, Seni<sup>r</sup>., of Scittuate, the eldest John, and son of Humphery Turner, deceased, in an action of the case, to the damage of ten pounds siluer mony, for that the said Turner, sumetime since last Aprill *last*, tooke vp a stray horse of the said Bosworthes, and contrary to the law of this collonie of New Plymouth. The jury find for the defendant the cost of the suite."

*Oct. 27, 1680*, "Beniamine Bosworth, Seni<sup>r</sup>, of Hull, in the Massachusetts collanie complaineth against John Turner, Seni<sup>r</sup>, of Scittuate, the eldest John Turner, the son of Humphery Turner, deceased, in an action of the case, to the damage of ten pounds, siluer money, comenced and prosecuted by the said Bosworths attorney, against the said Turner, att July Court, last past, which action was for that

## SECOND GENERATION

che said Turner som̄time since Aprill, 1679, tooke vp a stray horse of the said Bosworths, and hath vsed and sold the said horse without the likeing of the said Bosworth, and contrary to the law of this collonie of New Plymouth.

The jury find for the plaintiffe six pounds damage, siluer money, and the cost of the suite." [Plym. Col. Rec., Vol. 8, pp. 223 and 230.]

*Aug. 7, 1682*, Benjamin Bosworth, Senior, was granted a lot of land at Stow, but he did not remove there until the following year, for on Dec. 14, 1682, he is still called, "of Hull."

*Oct. 23, 1682*, Benjamin sold land to his nephew, Nathaniel Bosworth, Jr.; extract from the deed reads: "Know all men by these presents that I Beniamin Bosworth senior have sould unto nathaniel bosworth Junior all my rite on all the Islands called Brusters Island witness my hand," etc.

*Dec. 14, 1682*, Benjamin Bosworth sells his home lot in Hull, with the buildings, and other property, to Robert Gould, Sen.; the deed reads:

"To all People unto whom this present *Deed of Sale* shall Come Benjamin Bosworth Sen<sup>r</sup>. of *Hull* in the County of Suffolk in New England Husbandman Sendeth greeting

Know yee that the s<sup>d</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup>. Bosworth w<sup>th</sup> the free & full Consent of Beatrix his wife for and in Consideration of a *Valuable Sume of Current Money* of New Eng<sup>d</sup> in hand p<sup>d</sup> the s<sup>d</sup> Benja Bosworth & Beatrix his wife Doe acknowledge themselves to be fully Satisfied Contented & p<sup>d</sup> have granted bargained *Sold* . . . . and by these presents Doe freely fully and absolutely grant bargain *Sell* . . . . unto Robt Gold Sen<sup>r</sup> of Hull . . . . all y<sup>t</sup> their home lot bounded w<sup>th</sup> Thomas Collier Lot Southerly Lake Squires Northerly Towns Commons Easterly Mordecai Linkhorns land westerly and two thirds of a barn with Cowhouses Leantoos belonging thereunto two Lots at point Alderton One Lot at Pedox Island One Lott of Meadow at Bass point w<sup>th</sup> all Commons privileges . . . . belonging to a Single Allotm<sup>t</sup> in & of the Town of Hull w<sup>th</sup> all the Estate right & title . . . . of them the s<sup>d</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup>. Bosworth & Beatrix his wife of in & unto all and Every the Lands both uplands and meadows thereunto belonging . . . . and of all rivers Creeks Coves ponds woods underwoods buildings fencings & houseings w<sup>t</sup>soever upon the same or any part thereof . . . . to HAVE & TO HOLD even all the above mentioned premises granted unto him the s<sup>d</sup> Robert Gold his heirs & assigns . . . . And the s<sup>d</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup>. Bosworth & Beatrix his wife for themselves their heirs & Assigns and for Every of them respectively Do Covenant promise grant & agree to & w<sup>th</sup> the s<sup>d</sup> Robert Gold his heirs Exec.<sup>rs</sup> & Assigns . . . . that the s<sup>d</sup> Rob<sup>t</sup>. Gold



## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

. . . . shall and may by force and Virtue of these presents at all time & times forever hereafter Lawfully peaceably quietly have & hold Use Occupy possess & Enjoy the above bargained premises & Every part & parcel thereof . . . . And that they & Either of them at any time hereafter will Do any further reasonable or Lawful act or Thing for the more full assurance & Confirmation of the s<sup>d</sup> Bargain<sup>d</sup> premises unto the s<sup>d</sup> Robert Gold his heirs & Assignes according to the true Intent hereof and the Laws of the Mattachusetts Colony In witness whereof the s<sup>d</sup> Benj.<sup>a</sup> Bosworth & Beatrix his Wife have hereunto put their hands & Seals this 14th Day of Decemb<sup>r</sup>. Anno Dom<sup>i</sup>. One Thousand Six hundred Eighty & two and in the 34.<sup>th</sup> Year of his maj<sup>ts</sup> reign Over Eng<sup>d</sup>

Signed Sealed Deliv<sup>d</sup>. in presence of us  
Zachariah Whitman      Sarah Whitman  
Entered 10 Nov. 86

Benja Bosworth (Sigill)

Benjamin Bosworth personally  
appearing acknowledged this  
Instrument as his Act & Deed  
before I. Dudley Presid<sup>t</sup>.  
28 Octob<sup>r</sup>. 1686."

NOTE: Zachariah Whitman, who with his wife were witnesses to the above, was the first minister of the "Church of Christ" in Hull.

The italics in the above deed are my own. I wished to draw attention to the fact that this property, in Hull and thereabouts, was *bought* by Robert Gould, and not *given* to him, as has been stated.

In May, 1683, Benjamin Bosworth and Stephen Hall, of Stow, were chosen as a committee to present a petition to the General Assembly asking for incorporation, which was granted

*May 16, 1683*, Benjamin Bosworth one of the first Selectmen. The record reads: "In ans<sup>r</sup> to the peticon of Benja Bosworth, Tho Steevens, Boaz Broune, &c, inhabitants of Pompositticut & at the motion of the com̄ittee there appointed to order the affaires of s̄d new plantation betweene Concord & Lancaster, called as aboue, this Court doth grant that place to be a touneship, & doe allow the chojce already made by the inhabitants of selectmen, constable, &c, provided they act nothing contrary to the instruction & order given them by the comittee for the prudent distribution of their lands, & encouragement to the setling of a minister among them; and that the name of the said toun be Stow; and they are freed from country rates for three yeares next ensuing."

[Rec. of Mass., Vol. 5, p. 408.]



## SECOND GENERATION

The Maine Historical and Genealogical Records [Vol. 7, p. 20], has the following: "Edw<sup>d</sup>. Tyng, Esq<sup>r</sup>. of Boston his Daughter Willard Claimes an Island lying neer Sheepscot Riuer Called Joslin's Island formerly sold to Edw<sup>d</sup>. Tyng Esq<sup>r</sup>. by Abra Jocelin and his wife Beteris, by Deed signed & sealed and Right giuen up by them before Lawfull Authority and Adisclaim thereof under the hand of s<sup>d</sup> Beteris formerly Jocelin, Since Bosworth Dated May y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1683, and acknowledged s<sup>d</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> May 1683. Before John Hull asst."

*May 27, 1685*, At a meeting of the Mass. Bay Colony held in Boston: "In answer to the petition of Benjamin Bosworth, the Court judgeth it meet to grant the petitioner twenty acres of land in any ffree place, so as it exceeds not tenn acres, p<sup>t</sup> thereof to be meadow." [Rec. of Mass., Vol. 5, p. 480.]

*May 13, 1686*, "In ans<sup>r</sup> to the petition of Benjamin Bosworth the Court grants the petitioner two hundred acres of land where it maybe found free from any other grant, & not hindering the settlement of a plantation, making returne to the General Court for further confirmation, as y<sup>e</sup> law directs." [Rec. of Mass., Vol. 5, p. 515.]

---

The N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register [Vol. 2, p. 307], has the following: "The name of Abraham Josselyn's wife was Beatrice, variously written Beatris, Beatrix, and Betteris—the last in Boston Records. On the 16th of the 9th month 1671, Mrs. Beatrice Josselyn was married at Lancaster to Benjamin Bosworth and removed to Hull. In 1682 they sold their property at Hull and removed to Stow where they lived several years. By sundry deeds and papers on file relative to the settlement of the estate of Thomas Harris it appears that Sergeant Benjamin Bosworth and Beatrice, his wife, made over their farm at Stow, their town rights, and their lands in Marlborough to Thomas Harris and wife Rebecca (a daughter of Beatrice and Abraham Josselyn), of Boston, whither they then removed, and with whose family they passed the remainder of their days. Both of them survived Thos. Harris several years, and remained with his widow, Rebecca, after

her marriage to Edward Stevens. Sergeant Bosworth died in November, 1700."

Judge Samuel Sewall visited Benjamin's widow in her last illness, and wrote in his Diary, under date Dec. 17, 1711, "Visit Mrs. Beatrice Bosworth 88 years old. At her daughters Request I pray'd with her: She entertain'd me with great Respect and enquired after my wife and Son." He wrote later: "Sixth-day, Jan<sup>y</sup>. 11. 17<sup>11</sup><sub>12</sub>. Mrs. Beatrice Bosworth is buried, aged 89 years. Her first husband's name was Joclin, by whom she had her daughter Stephens."

She was buried in Granary Burying Ground and her grave is No. 1410. The inscription on the stone reads:

BIETRIS BOASWORTH

Died January 8, 1711/12

Age 89 yrs.

---

One of the "sundry papers" referred to above is no doubt the following, found in Boston Probate records, [Bk. 15, p. 156]: "The Accompt of Rebecca Stevens (late Harris)\* Relict and Sole Executrix of the last Will and Testament of Thomas Harris late of Boston in the County of Suffolke, . . . The said Accomptant charges herself with all and singular the Goods and Chattels of the said deceased Specified in an Inventory . . . . exhibited into the Registry of the Court of Probate . . . . Eighteenth of August 1698, amounting as

Pr sd. Inventory appears to the Sum of - - £587..1..4"

Other items including

"Lands at Stow sold for £80..-..-." } - - £699..4..4  
increased the amount to.....)

"And the s<sup>d</sup> Accomptant prays allowance of the Several Debts . . . . hereafter mentioned, Vizt." Among others the following: "It. P<sup>d</sup>. funeral charges of Benj<sup>a</sup>. Bosworth who in his life time made over his Estate to the decēad and the

---

\* Rebecca Josselyn married successively, John Croakham, Thomas Harris, and Edward Stevens. A daughter, Jane Harris, married first a Smith, and second, Robert Goold, Jr., of Hull. She and her children by Robert Goold are mentioned in her father's will. This will be taken up again later in the history of Benjamin Bosworth's daughter, who married the elder Robert Goold.



## SECOND GENERATION

accomptant, in consideracon of their being to maintain him  
&c. - - - - - £12..6..2”

Among the legacies are the following items:

“To the Accomptant the price of y<sup>e</sup> Negroman Sambo  
which according to the deceds Will was sold to Jane Goold  
for £20”

“To the four children of the s<sup>d</sup> Jane which is paid to their  
father Robert Goold five pound apiece is £20”

Dated, Boston May 22, 1703.

NOTE: The above items are referred to later, under GOULD.

In East Cambridge, Middlesex Co. Court House we find  
the record of a deed made Apr. 18, 1701 (recorded Apr. 24,  
1702), by “Edw. Steevens & Rebecca Steevens, his wife  
(formerly the wife of Thomas Harris) & Beatrice, wife of  
Benj. Bozworth, some time of Stow and since of Boston  
lately Dece<sup>d</sup> and by him in his life time together with Beatrice  
his then wife conveyed and sold unto the above named Thos.  
Harris and the said Rebecca his then wife,” land in Stow to  
Robert Angan, for 80 pounds. In the signature of Beatrice  
Bosworth, she made “her mark.”

In 1702 Mary Bacon gave a deed to Thos. James of land in  
Hingham, bounded “with the meadow that was formerly  
Benja Bozworths.” Dec. 21, 1702, “Benjamin Bozworth, de-  
ceased,” is mentioned in the bounds of land at Hogg Island.

It is with great satisfaction that in closing the history of  
Benjamin<sup>2</sup> Bosworth I am able to give a photograph of a  
letter written by his own hand in the year 1699, the year  
before his death. This letter is preserved in the Archives of  
the state of Massachusetts, in the State House at Boston.  
The letter was written in favor of a petition of Samuel  
Austin, “an innholder of Wells, (Me.), now of Charlestown  
that he may be paid for billeting soldiers 20 years before with  
a/c as allowed at Wells. In the years 1675 & 76, for £74-19<sup>s</sup>-  
1<sup>d</sup>.” The letter was written on the back of Samuel Austin’s  
account. His petition was addressed:

“To His Excellency the R<sup>t</sup> hon<sup>ble</sup> Rich<sup>d</sup> Earle of Bello-  
mont Cap<sup>n</sup> Gen<sup>rl</sup> & Governour in Cheife of his maj<sup>ties</sup>  
Province of the Massachusetts Bay &c. the hon<sup>rd</sup> Council &  
representatives now assembled in Gen<sup>rl</sup> Court.”

With this petition Samuel Austin filed a certificate by the committee for war for the town of Wells (which was then a town of the Mass. Bay Colony), in 1677. "Common Arrers ffor Souldiers charges of the Late warre Granted and allowed by the Coñittee of Millitia of Wells from the first Begininge of the Late Indian warre vnto the first September 1677."

This petition and account was first presented to the House of Representatives, June 15, 1699, and "Read June 16<sup>th</sup>. Voted That in Consideracõn of diverse good services formerly done for the Publick, by Sam<sup>l</sup> Austin the above s<sup>d</sup> Petition<sup>r</sup> (he being now reduced to great want) the Sum of fifteen Pounds be Granted to him & paid out of the publick Treary. Jam<sup>s</sup> Converse Speaker

Sent up for Concurrence."

Although the above was voted by the House it was not concurred in by the Council and on June 4, 1700, it was again before the House and it was again voted that 15 pounds be paid, and on June 12, 1700, it was "Read in Council and voted a Concurrence.

Is<sup>a</sup> Addington Secry."

"Advised and Consented—That his Excellency issue forth his Warrant to M<sup>r</sup>. Treasurer to pay unto the sd Samuel Austin the aforesd sum of Fifteen pounds accordingly."

Although the petition was addressed as above, to the Earl of Bellomont, who was Governor General, William Stoughton, the Lieutenant Governor, was acting in his place, and it is evident it was he that Benjamin had in mind in writing the letter, which reads as follows:

Honnored Sir I humbly pray pardon my boldness pesuming to wright to your worship upon such an acount as this it beeing non of my owne concern any other way than as christians who ar comanded by god to feel my brothers welfare as my owne: and therfore I shall acquaint you how gods will desplayed hath made it my bisniss: this apurill: I having an aged brother and siste who were liuers at wells and kept a hous of entertainment ther beeing routed ther cam to charlstown and liued with a daughter: and I haveing not seen them a great while becaus of my in abilitie to trauill being eighty sixe and they litle lese: I had a sudden impulse com upon my



## SECOND GENERATION

spirit to enduer to go to see them once more: and when I cam there I found them both weake that I could not here them speke I am so Deafe: so that thay sent for a grand son to informe me of their will which they now being adged and now beeing in wantt and he entertaing posts and souldiers as your worship may heere see of his owne pertick'r charg and now in theire old agge to be in want and upon such an acount: Sir god hath set you as a father to this his poore people—Sir god made your father a father to me for three score and fouer year agon I liued with your father at dorchester and I hop you will do the best you can for my poor brother and sister Sir I bless god I could say much were it needful—But the cry of the poor recheth far exo 22-21 . 22 . 23—Psa 12-5 with many more but I will refer any to mr cotons sermon on pro 11-26 your honons to comand Beniamine April 20

Bosworth [1699]

NOTE: William<sup>2</sup> Stoughton, son of Israel<sup>1</sup>, the emigrant, was born in 1631, probably in Dorchester. He was acting Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts from 1692 until his death in 1701, was Commander in Chief of the Province during most of that time and also Chief Justice of the Superior Court. His tombstone is in the old Dorchester burying ground.

NOTE: It was stated by Wyman, in his history of Charlestown, that Samuel Austin married a sister of Benjamin Bosworth. The idea was probably taken from the above letter, but it is the opinion of other students of genealogy besides myself, that a careful reading of the above will show that Samuel Austin and his wife were a "brother and sister" in the church. Moreover, by referring to printed Vol. 1, p. 52, of N. H. Probate Records, as also to York Deeds, Vol. 2, pp. 91, 121, 158, we find that Samuel Austin married Sarah, widow of William Story. Her ancestry not known, but a son Samuel Story, probably married Lydia, a daughter of Samuel Austin by his first wife.

## CHILDREN

of Benjamin<sup>2</sup> Bosworth by his first wife, name not known:

17 + i—BENJAMIN<sup>3</sup>,    \ Both baptized in Hingham, Mass., by Rev. Peter  
18 + ii—MEHITABLE<sup>3</sup>    } Hobart, April 6, 1647.

Benjamin, Jr., m. Hannah Morton; d. at Hull, Nov. 5, 1682, before his father.

Mehitable prob. m. Robert Gould of Hull.

## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

Benjamin<sup>2</sup> Bosworth died in Boston, in November, 1700, aged 85 years. This does not agree with his age as given in his letter, but does agree with the age he gave in June, 1639, when he testified that he was "aged about 24," and in 1663, when he testified that he was "aged 48 or thereabout."

He was probably buried in Granary Burying Ground, Boston, where eleven years later his second wife, Beatrice, was buried, as we have seen. If there was a stone put up at his grave, as there was at hers, it has disappeared during the lapse of years.



[illegible]

Sir I bless God I could say much more of it needfull - But the cry of the poor  
wretched few 200 22-2122-23 - of 12-3<sup>d</sup> will ~~any~~ more but I will ~~not~~ envy  
to no colon, I desire on 200 11 26 your honors to command to increase April 20

Byju's

The first  
year.





**N**ATHANIEL<sup>2</sup> BOSWORTH, son of Edward<sup>1</sup> and Mary [—], born in England, Sept. 4, 1617, came to America in 1634, in the ship *Elizabeth and Dorcas*, in company with his parents, his sister Mary, and her husband William Buckland, his older brother Benjamin, and possibly younger children. His father dying as the ship was entering Boston Harbor, he, together with his two brothers, Jonathan and Benjamin, and his brother-in-law, William Buckland, were ordered by the Court to pay to Henry Sewall the sum of twenty pounds that the father, Edward<sup>1</sup>, had borrowed for the expenses of the voyage. Each were directed to pay an equal proportion, so Nathaniel, although only eighteen years of age, was obliged to pay five pounds. It was to be paid in two installments,—fifty shillings on Sept. 29, 1635, and fifty shillings one year later. This same year we find him with his mother and brothers at Hingham, where they all seem to have settled.

On Sept. 1, 1640 (date given “1 (7) 1640,” but as March at that time was reckoned the first month, the seventh would be September), Nathaniel joined with his brother Benjamin in making a draft on Joseph Bosworth of Coventry, Warwickshire, England, shoemaker. (See Benjamin history, p. 79). Following this transaction the next reference we find is in Boston Town Records, Vol. 32. It is headed, “Aspinwall Notarial Records, 22 (7) 1649.” “Wm. Hudson is Creditor for Chardges about the Shallop whereof he did owe 1/3. . . . pd to Nathaniel Bosworth for bringing his frame to Boston 14 ss.”

Abstract of earliest wills on record in the County of Suffolk, Mass., Second Volume of Probate Records. Inventory on the estate of Capt. Bozone Allen\*, taken Sept. 22,

---

\* Capt. Bozone Allen was a merchant (“mercier”) of Hingham.

1652. . . . Debts due the estate from individuals belonging to the following towns:

*Hingham*; among many others,  
 "Will<sup>m</sup> Buckland" and "John Lobdon"

*Hull*; among several others,  
 "Nathaniell Boseworth."

[N. E. Register, Vol. 8, p. 60.]

From the above we see that some time previous to this, perhaps at the time of his marriage, about 1645 or 1646, Nathaniel had settled in Hull, and in the year 1657, when the lands of the inhabitants of the town were listed on the Hull records, Nathaniel's were among them and were as follows, giving an abstract, quoting the quaint spelling of the time.

"The Lands and tenements of Nathaniell Bosworth first  
 twoe home Lotts containing fouer Accers

---

more one acer . . . on the towne street

---

more one lott of meadow at Whit head containinge twoe  
 Acers . . .

---

more one peece of meadow by the straights pond . . .

---

more one lott at Alderton hill containing one Acer and  
 halfe . . .

---

more three lotts at Alderton hill containeinge fouer Acers . .

---

more two lotts at White head conteineinge two acers . . .  
 Beniamine Bosworth on the west and south . . .

---

more one lott at Peddocks Island containinge fower Acers  
 . . . the Common Swamp on the southwest.

---

more halfe a lott at Peddocks Island . . . twoe Acers

---

more half a lott at Peddocks Island conteineinge two acers . .

---

more half a lott at Peddocks Island . . . two acers

---

more two lots at Strawberry hill an Acer and halfe . . .

---

more two small lots on Strawberry hill containinge one Acer  
 and halfe . . . the highway on the north."



## SECOND GENERATION

In 1654 Benjamin and Nathaniel Bosworth of Hull had signed the petition of Martin Stebbins of Boston for a Tavern license.

*Sept. 9, 1659*, Nathaniel Bosworth's name on a list of those owing bills to the estate of Martin Stebbins, a "Victualler" of Boston. His name in this case is spelled "Boswith." [N. E. Reg., Vol. 32, p. 318.]

To the will of John Stone, dated May 5, 1659, and recorded in Suffolk county, "Nathaniell Bosworth and Nico. Baker" were witnesses. The inventory of the estate was made

*Jan. 13, 1663*, by Nathaniel Bosworth and Nathaniel "Backer." [N. E. Reg., Vol. 12, p. 273.]

The following is an abstract of a deed given by Nathaniel to Thomas and John Loring. The entire deed may be found in Vol. 4, of the printed volumes of early Suffolk County Deeds.

"To all Christian People to whom these presents shall come Nathaniel Bosworth of Hull in the County of Suffolke in New England Carpenter & Bridget his wife sends Greeting. Know yee that the sajd Nathaniel Bosworth himself & w<sup>th</sup> the free Consent of Bridget his wife for and in the Consideration of the Sume of twenty pounds to him already payd or secured to be payd by Thomas Loring & John Loring both of Hull afore-sajd . . . unto the said Thomas Loring and John Loring their heires and assignes one whole lot at Peddocks Island, being foure acres more or lesse, with all the liberties and priuiledges thereunto belonging as the said lot or land lies bounded, by the land of Edward Bun on the East, by the land of Richard Stubbes on the West, by the sea on the North by the Common Swamp on the South TO HAVE AND TO HOLD" etc.

"Signed sealed and delivered this

tenth day of January in the  
yeare of our Lord one thousand  
six hundred sixty and one

In the presence of us Samuel Torrey  
Charles Cambell

Nathaniel Bosworth  
And a Seale  
Bridget Bosworth

Bridget Bosworth acknowledged that she put her hand to this conveyance the day of the date thereof & that she did it freely in confirmation of the Same.

Acknowledged 1<sup>st</sup> Decembe<sup>r</sup> 1671 before mee Jo<sup>n</sup> Leverett Dep<sup>t</sup>. Gov<sup>r</sup>.  
Recorder p. Is Addington Record<sup>r</sup>."

NOTE: The latter date is not an error; Bridget made her acknowledgment ten years after the date of the deed.

## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

Among abstracts of earliest wills on record in Boston is found that of Thomas<sup>1</sup> Loring, "lately deceased." The inventory was taken by William Chamberlayne and John Lobdell and is dated,

*June 5, 1662*, In a list of those to whom the estate was indebted is found the name of Nathaniel Bosworth.

Looking over the earliest records of the Town of Hull, that have been preserved, we find among persons chosen "by the inhabitants off Hull ffor the orderinge off the prudentiall affayres off the Saide Towne . . . ffor this present yeare 1662"

"nat bosworth"

*June 27, 1666*, In the inventory of Thomas<sup>1</sup> Loring of Hull, made by William Chamberlayne and John Lobdell, among debts that had been paid, was, "Nathaniel Bosworth 8 shillings."

In 1668, In a division of the lots "on the north side of the hill," probably Strawberry Hill, "The ffirst Lott belonginge to John Lobdell," the next three lots were Nathaniel Bosworth's.

In 1670, In the laying out of lots at Slate Island and Sheep Island, they were numbered beginning at the southeast, and Nos. 16 and 17 were given to "Nath bosworth."

In 1670, at a Town Meeting in Hull, Nathaniel Bosworth, Senior, and Edward Bunn were appointed "to view the fences."

NOTE: This is the first time we find the term "Senior" used in connection with Nathaniel's name, and this year his son Nathaniel<sup>3</sup> arrived at the age of twenty-one.

*May 12, 1670*, Nathaniel Bosworth witnessed a deed given by Isaac Lobdell and Martha, his wife, of Hull, to John Lobdell.

NOTE: In Feb. 1665 John Lobdell had married the eldest daughter of Nathaniel and Bridget Bosworth. Isaac Lobdell was no doubt a brother of John, both being sons of Nicholas Lobdell of Hingham.

*June 5, 1671*, "In answare vnto the petition prefered to this Court by M<sup>r</sup> John Prince and M<sup>r</sup> Nathaniel Bosworth of the towne of Hull, allies Nantaskett, in the behalfe of said towne,



## SECOND GENERATION

to haue libertie to imploy some boates and theire companies, for the takeing of mackerell with netts, att the season thereof, att Cape Codd, this Court doth graunt vnto them libertie for two boates and there companies, to take mackerell there att the season thereof; soe as they make payment of what is due to the collonie from forraigners, notwithstanding any order of Court extant, prohibiting others to fish there." [Plymouth Colony Records, Vol. V, p. 63.]

NOTE: John Pory, writing to the Governor of Virginia in 1622, said: "And Cape Cod it selfe hath not that name for naught, for it is thought that one shallops fishing onelie would suffice the whole plantation of New-Plymouth all the yeare long." (From "John Pory's Lost Description of Plymouth Colony," published 1918.)

*Dec. 1, 1671*, "Nathaniell Bosworth Sen<sup>r</sup>." witness with "John Prince Sen<sup>r</sup>. & Jun<sup>r</sup>." to deed given by Edw. Bunne and Elizabeth his wife to Thos. Loring of half a lot (2 acres), at Peddock Island which was bounded on the southwest with "his owne Lott bought of Nathaniell Bosworth." [Boston Deeds, Bk. 6, p. 290.]

*Sept. 4, 1672*, Matthew Briggs and Deborah, his wife, of Hingham, deed to Nathaniel Bosworth of Hull, 150 acres of upland and salt marsh, or meadow, lying on the south side of North river, lying in the township of Marshfield, Plymouth county. "In the 24th year of Our Sovereign Lord Charles the 2nd." [Plymouth Deeds.]

"Accounts of Sundry payments made for the building of the Castle in the years 1673 and 1674.—

Nathaniel Bosworth Dr. to Sundry payments, - - - - 25 s."

*March 9, 1673/4*, In a list of the names of the townsmen of Hull, Nathaniel Bosworth's name appears.

*March 3, 1674/5*, Jane Chamberlain, widow, and "Henry Chamberlin Senio<sup>r</sup>. and William Chamberlin Sen<sup>r</sup>. Sons of the s<sup>d</sup>. Jane Chamberlin of Hull," sell all their land in Hingham. Nathaniel Bosworth one of the witnesses.

*May 12, 1675*, At a meeting of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, held in Boston, "In ans<sup>r</sup>. to the petition of Nathaniel

Bosworth of Hull, the Court judgeth it meete to grant the peticoner, w<sup>th</sup> such others as shall present that tract of land therein desired, they being such persons as shall be approued by Willjam Staughton, Esq. . . . or any fouer of them, who are appointed a Committee for the ordering the giving of lotts, or otherwise mannaging the prudentialls there, to make a valid act, provided there be twenty familjes settled there w<sup>th</sup>in three yeares, and that there be also a settled & orthodox minister there w<sup>th</sup>in the sajd terme, and that it be w<sup>th</sup>in our ljne, and not intrench vpon any former; provided also, that a farme of two hundred & fiuety acres be lajd out for the country's farme, and that a plat thereof, when a plat for the place or towne is brought into this Court, be also brought in."

At the same meeting, "In ans<sup>r</sup> to the peticon of Sampson Shoare, together w<sup>th</sup> the humble request of Nathaniel Bosworth, execcuto<sup>r</sup> to the last will & testament of John Lobdell, the Court judgeth it meete to impower Nathaniel Bosworth, deacon to the church of Christ at Hull, & father in law to John Lobdell, deceased, to make Sampson Shoare a legall deed, as is desired." [Rec. of Mass., Vol. 5, p. 36.]

*Oct. 27, 1675*, Nathaniel Bosworth, of Hull, —Father-in-law and Executor to the last will and testament of John Lobdell, late of Hull,—gives deed of land. [Boston Deeds, 9-314]. Acknowledged on the same date by Deacon Nathaniel Bosworth.

In 1676, Nathaniel Bosworth signed an agreement representing the town. [Hull Records.]

*Feb. 1, 1677*, "In A full Towne meeting on this first day of february one thousand six hundred seventy & seven the pond called Duck pond with beach y<sup>t</sup> comes athwert from y<sup>e</sup> stony beach over to the northeast end of gallops hill was given & granted by a full vote of the proprietors & inhabitants of this town of Hull unto Nathaniel Bosworth Sen.<sup>r</sup> & Junior—Benjamin Bosworth Sen.<sup>r</sup>. (and to thirteen others, named) for the erecting of a Corn grinding mill for the use of this Town & not otherwise to be Appropriated."



## SECOND GENERATION

*Nov.*, 1678, Deacon Nathaniel Bosworth of Hull on list of those who had taken the "Oath of Allegiance." [Misc. Papers, Boston.]

*Feb. 4*, 1679, Benjamin Jones buys land bounded on one side by land of Benjamin Bosworth; Nathaniel Bosworth one of the witnesses.

*Feb. 25*, 1679, ("the 25 of the 12 month 78"), the inventory of Thomas<sup>2</sup> Loring's estate was made by "nathaniel bosworth" and "Thomas Colier."

*Apr. 22*, 1679, "Nathaniel Bosworth Senior" witness to a deed given by George Vickery and Rebecca, his wife, to "our Son" Isaac Vickery.

*April 29*, 1679, Nathaniel Bosworth witnessed an agreement, made in Boston, by William, John and Job, sons and heirs of William Chamberlain of Hull.

*May 5*, 1679, Nathaniel Bosworth, "yeoman of Hull," sells seven acres of meadow land in Marshfield, to John Rogers. Signed by Nathaniel alone. Acknowledged Jan. 26, 1680. [Plymouth Deeds.]

*June 14*, 1679, Nathaniel Bosworth, Sen., witnessed a Deed of Gift, by George Vickars (or Vickery) and wife Rebecca, to their son Isaac. (Isaac Vickery m. Lydia Jones, a sister of Mary Jones, who married Lemuel Bosworth, a grandson of Nathaniel, Sen.)

"Att a Generall Court for Elections, held at Boston,"

*May 19*, 1680, under names of "gent<sup>n</sup>" to serve at this Court;

"Hull—M<sup>r</sup> Nathaniel Bosworth."

[Rec. of Mass., Vol. 5, p. 266.]

*Mar. 7*, 16 <sup>$\frac{80}{81}$</sup> , Samuel Baker of Hull sold land to the "13 Own<sup>rs</sup>. of the Corn Mill & Saw Mill now built at Straits pond in propor<sup>con</sup> to their Severall parts & Interest in the s<sup>d</sup> mills whose names & parts therein are as followeth that is to Say of Nathan<sup>l</sup> Bosworth Sen<sup>r</sup>. One 16<sup>th</sup> part & J<sup>no</sup> Lorin One

## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

16<sup>th</sup> part & of Benj<sup>a</sup> Lorin One 16<sup>th</sup> part & of Rob<sup>t</sup> Gold One 16<sup>th</sup> p<sup>t</sup>. & of George Vickers One 16<sup>th</sup> p<sup>t</sup>. & of Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Bosworth Jun<sup>r</sup> One 16<sup>th</sup> p<sup>t</sup>. & of Jos<sup>ph</sup> Bosw<sup>th</sup> One 16<sup>th</sup> p<sup>t</sup> & of J<sup>no</sup> Bosworth One 16<sup>th</sup> p<sup>t</sup>. all of the Town of Hull afores<sup>d</sup> & also," others of Hingham and Scituate, etc.

*May 11, 1681*, Court impowered Nathaniel Bosworth as Deputy at the Court to administer oaths and to marry, at Hull. [Rec. of Mass., Vol. 5, p. 314.]

*May 1, 1682*, Elizabeth Smith, widow of Ensign Henry Smith; Joshua Smith, eldest son and heir; and Abraham Perrin and Phillip Walker; of the Township of Rehoboth, Colony of New Plymouth, for sixty pounds, silver money, "fourty pounds of which was paid to us by Nathaniel Bosworth & twenty pounds paid to us by Benjamin Jones, *both of y<sup>e</sup> Towne of Hull*, in y<sup>e</sup> Colony of y<sup>e</sup> Massachusetts in New England," sells a "Tract of Salt Meadow" situated in New Bristol, "it being a Tract of Meadow lying by itself on both sides of a Creeke at the Bridge being bounded Northerly a Swampe Southerly y<sup>e</sup> Beach & y<sup>e</sup> Salt water easterly & westerly y<sup>e</sup> upland." Two-thirds to go to Nathaniel Bosworth, and one-third to Benjamin Jones. Elizabeth and Joshua Smith deed it "with y<sup>e</sup> consent & approbation of y<sup>e</sup> Honoured Court of New Plimouth And I y<sup>e</sup> said Abraham Perrin of my own free will & I y<sup>e</sup> said Phillip Walker with y<sup>e</sup> consent & approbation of y<sup>e</sup> Worshipful M<sup>r</sup>. Daniel Smith my Guardian."

In presence of  
William Buckline  
William Carpenter

Recorded in 1686.

---

*Sept. 29, 1682*, "Nathaniel Bozworth Senior *of Hull*" and Bridget, his wife, divide the 150 acres of land in Marshfield, "lying on the South side of North River," owned by them and John Cushing in common, Nathaniel and Bridget to have "the westward part of ye said upland and marsh and ye said John Cushing to have the eastward part," etc. and "Nathaniel Bozworth" and wife sell to Elisha Bisbee their half "always excepting seven acres of ye said Salt Marsh







"SILVER CREEK," BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND



HOUSE BUILT BY DEACON NATHANIEL BOSWORTH ABOUT 1683



## SECOND GENERATION

which ye said Nathaniel Bozworth have formerly sold out of his half part of ye said Marsh unto John Rogers. . . . In witness whereof ye said Nathaniel Bozworth & Bridget his wife have hereunto sett their hands & seals on ye nine and twentieth day of September Anno Domini Sixteen hundred eighty and two and in the thirty fourth year of the Reign of o<sup>r</sup> Sovereign Lord Charles the Second by ye grace of God of Great Brittain France & Ireland Defender of ye Faith—1682.”

Signed “Nathaniel Bozworth” and a Seal

“Bridgett Bozworth” and a Seal

Acknowledged Sept. 29, 1682.

*Mar. 5, 1683*, Nathaniel Bosworth's name signed to an order for the town of Hull. [Hull Records.]

NOTE: I think it must have been about this time that Nathaniel removed to Bristol—then in the Massachusetts Colony, since 1747 in Rhode Island. I am aware that it has been stated in Baylie's History of New Plymouth, and in other places, that he removed in 1680, but as may plainly be seen by the date of one of the above deeds, he did not buy the land in Bristol until *May 1, 1682*, and in September, 1682, as seen above, he was still called “of Hull.” The last item, taken from the Hull records, I think must refer to him, as he had been appointed, in 1662, to sign orders for the town, and he had done so in other cases.

When Nathaniel<sup>2</sup> removed to Bristol he was accompanied by three of his sons: Jeremiah, aged about 34; Bellamy, about 29; and Edward, about 24; all were unmarried. His other three sons, Nathaniel, Joseph and John remained in Hull. All married there, and later John removed to Bristol.

---

When Nathaniel first came to Bristol he built him a home on the banks of Silver Creek, which was the first frame house built in the town. This house is still standing and is not only a very old house, but highly interesting in every respect. The place has never been sold, but has been inherited by one generation after another, and in this line of succession was at one time the property of Judge Bourn, who was a member of the first Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia. The chairs, used on that occasion, were afterwards sold, and two of them were purchased by Judge Bourn. These chairs still stand in the parlor of Nathaniel Bosworth's old home—

“Silver Creek,” as the place is called—and may be seen in the accompanying photograph, as also a painting of Judge Bourn hanging on the right. Later the place came into the possession of Mrs. James Perry, whose son, the late Rev. Calbraith Bourn Perry, D.D., published a book entitled, “The Perrys of Rhode Island, and Tales of Silver Creek: The Bosworth-Bourn-Perry Homestead.”

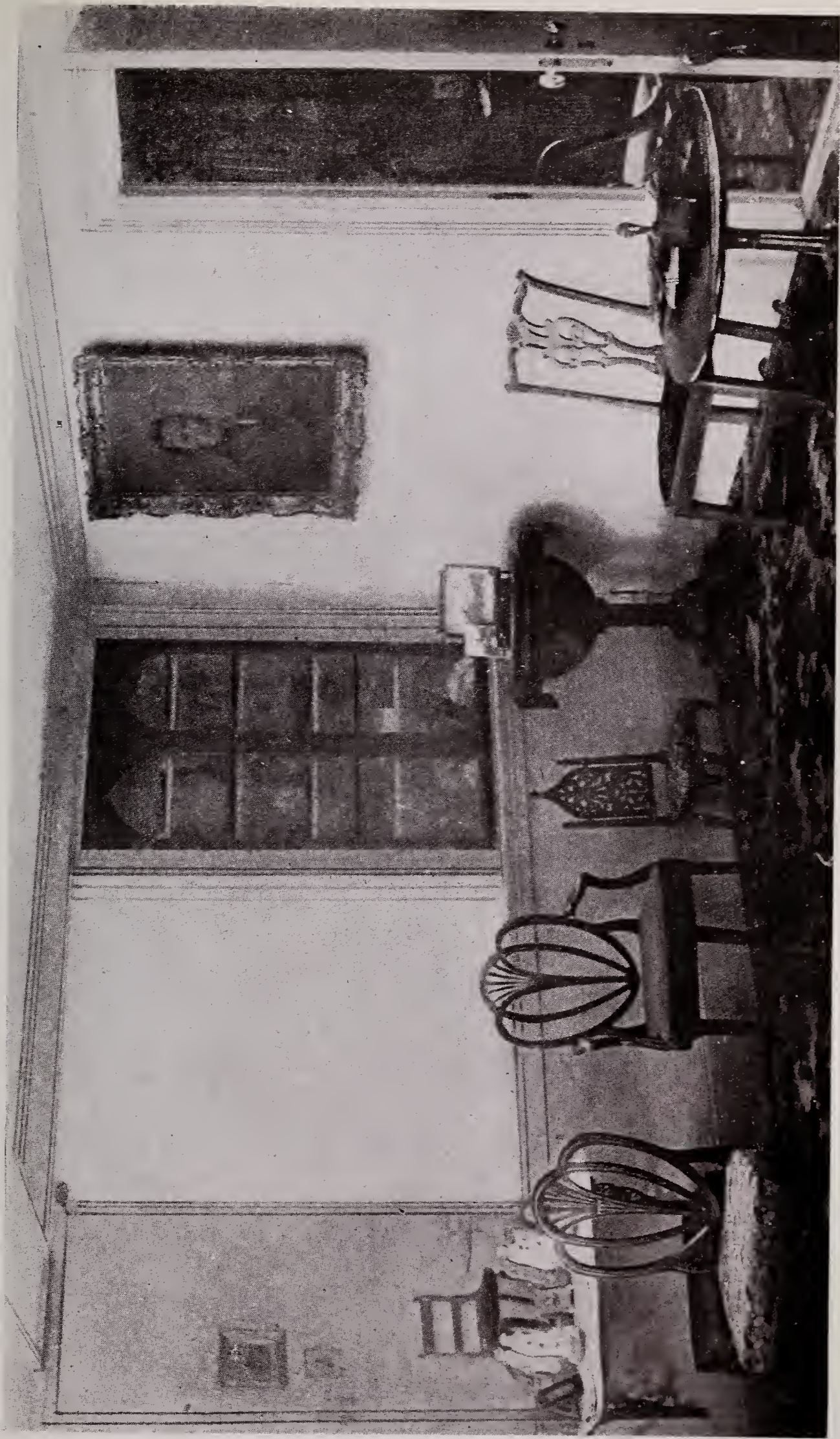
Nathaniel was a very prominent man in the history of Bristol, and his name appears on “Founder’s Tablet,” in Memorial Hall. He was one of the founders of the first church of Bristol, first known as the “Church of Christ,” and afterward called the “Catholic Congregational Church.” He was the first deacon of this church and was known as “Deacon Bosworth” for the remainder of his life. The first religious services in the town were held in his house, and he assisted in erecting the first house of worship built there. When the old church was abandoned and a new one built, the baptismal font from the old church was presented to the descendants of Nathaniel who were living in the old home, and it also has a place in the parlor at “Silver Creek,” and may be seen in the photograph.

Deacon Nathaniel Bosworth was a man of sterling character, and the Rev. E. P. Lane, in his historical sketches of the First Congregational Church of Bristol, gives his name among eight men who were founders of the church. Of these men, Mr. Lane says, “Such were the men, earnest, devoted, godly, and highly esteemed, who gave the weight of their character and influence to the foundation of our beloved Zion.” His tombstone stands against the south exterior wall of the present church, having been removed there from the old churchyard.

The home of Nathaniel<sup>2</sup> Bosworth, in Bristol, R. I., has been written of as follows:

“Among Bristol’s colonial architecture, one of the oldest and best known is on the east side of Hope street, just north of the bridge. This is known as ‘Silver Creek’ and was built . . . by Deacon Nathaniel Bosworth. From its completion to the present day it has never failed to shelter some of his descendants. It was added to from time to time until it





VIEW OF THE PARLOR AT "SILVER CREEK"





attained its present proportions. In the south-west part—the original house—was held the first meeting for religious worship in Bristol.

During the bombardment of the town by Gen. Wallace in 1775, grape shot pierced its walls and lodged between the ceilings, where it was found years later when repairs were being made.

In this building, where was organized the Congregational Church Society, was also opened the first school. This was taught by Miss Mary Bosworth, the owner's daughter."

Further interesting matter concerning this old house may be found in *Bosworth Bulletin*, No. 3, published Oct., 1924, written by Miss Isabella E. Bosworth, daughter of the late Judge Orrin L. Bosworth, of Bristol.

---

The first record we find of Nathaniel in Bristol was on *Sept. 22, 1685*, When "Deacon Bosworth" was chosen with four others as "a Town Council to join with the Commisioned officers of this town, by way of ordering concerns of any exigencies relating to military affairs."

*Aug. 6, 168-*, Nathaniel Bosworth "of Bristol," for "twenty two pounds silver money of New England," buys "of John Viall of Swansey in the Collony of Plimouth in New England . . . one full halfe part of a Ten acre Lott of Salt Marsh or Meadow which was a common Lott" situated "in ye Township of Bristoll in ye Collony of New Plym<sup>o</sup>. afores<sup>d</sup>," bounded "on ye North by ye meadow of Mr. Nathan<sup>l</sup>. Paine, on ye East by Kickamuet River on y<sup>e</sup> West by y<sup>e</sup> upland & y<sup>e</sup> South by a Cove which runneth neare y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> upland & by the meadow of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Nathan<sup>l</sup>. Paine as by y<sup>e</sup> Twenty sixth page of y<sup>e</sup> Booke of Records p<sup>r</sup>teining to y<sup>e</sup> Proprietors of y<sup>e</sup> Lands of Poponomscut & parts adjacent may appear." Dated "this Sixth day of August one Thous- and Six Hundred Eighty & : " (This is the way it ends, the last figure not given.) Joseph Bosworth of Hull, Nathaniel's son, bought the other half of this ten acre lot, of Noah Floyd of Swansea, March 18, 168<sup>5</sup>/<sub>6</sub>, whether before, or after Nathaniel's purchase, could not be ascertained. John Viall

## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

and Noah Floyd had owned the ten acres in common.  
[Taunton Deeds, Bk. 4, p. 125.]

*Apr. 16, 1686*, Opposite this date, on the first book of Bristol records, page 28, we find, "Dacon Bossworth his eare marke for neat cattel and swine is a slit sloping about the middle of the neare side of the neare eare thus ——"



*May 11, 1686*, The name of Nathaniel Bosworth is found, with five others, signed to a letter, addressed to the Rev. James Allen, Rev. Increase Mather, and Rev. Samuel Willard, regarding trouble they were having over their minister, Rev. Mr. Woodbridge.

*June 28, 1686*, The same names are signed to another letter, addressed to Rev. Increase Mather, earnestly requesting him to come and help settle some difficulty in the church.

*Feb. 11, 1688<sup>8</sup>/<sub>9</sub>*, A census of "All the families in New Bristol," gives: "Nathaniel Bosworth, wife, two children, Tommy and Edward, grandchildren, no servants."

[N. E. Hist. Register, Vol. 34, p. 404.]

NOTE: Who the grandchildren, Tommy and Edward, were it has been impossible to discover. They were not the Lobdell boys, as their names were John and Nathaniel. The only surmise I can make is, that they were children of his son Edward, whose family history is very obscure, probably owing to the fact that some of the leaves of the old Bristol records are missing.

*Apr. 1, 1690*, "Nathaniel Bosworth of Bristol, county of Bristol in New England, yeoman, & Bridgett his wife for eight pounds six shillings eight pence currant money of New England," sell to Nathaniel Byfield, of Bristol, merchant, one third part of "one Two & thirtyeth part of a neck of land Scittuate . . . within The township of Bristol aforesd Commonly called or Known by the Name of Papasquash Neck the whole two & thirtyeth part Containing by Estimation Twenty five acres . . . bounded north by the land of Nath<sup>l</sup> Paine west by the Baye or Salt water South by the land of Simon Davis & East by the harbor of Bristol or Salt



## SECOND GENERATION

water: with all trees woods underwoods swamps meadows  
Beach flatts wayes water Courses” etc. “In witness hereof  
the said Nathaniel Bosworth & Bridgett his wife have here-  
unto sett their hands and seals this First day of April Anno  
Domini one thousand Six hundred & Ninety” In presence of  
Samuel Gallap. . }

Thomas Doggett }

*Jan. 4, 1693*, “Samuel Gallap made oath that he saw  
Nathaniel Bosworth the within written subscriber sign seale  
& deliver this Instrument. Entered Jan. 26, 1693 By John  
Cary Recorder.”

*July 1, 1690*, Nathaniel Bosworth and Benjamin Jones of  
Bristol, yeoman, for three pounds, sell to John Smith of  
Bristol, carpenter, “one fourteenth part” of 23 acres of land  
in Bristol, bounded “westward by the Bay or Salt water  
. . . Eastward by a road or highway,” etc. “In witness  
thereof they have hereunto set their Hands and seales this  
first Day of July Anno Domini one thousand six hundred and  
ninety.”

Witnesses	Signed	Nathaniel Bosworth	seal
John Cary		Bridget Bosworth	seal
her		Benjamin Jones	seal
Merry <i>M</i> Lobdell		Bethshua Jones	seal
mark			

Recorded April 1697 By John Cary Recorder.

---

*Aug. 31, 1690*, “Nathaniel Bosworth, Deacon of the church  
of Bristol, died.” (Bristol Records, Bk. 1, p. 28.)

### NATHANIEL'S BOSWORTH'S WILL

In Ye Name & Fear of God, Amen.

This Fifteenth of March in ye yeare of our Lord one thousand six  
hundred eighty nine, or Ninety, I, Nathaniel Bosworth of Bristoll in ye  
County of Bristoll in ye Colony of New Plymouth in New England,  
yeoman, being in good health and of perfect mind and memory Thanks be  
to God for ye same, calling to mind ye mortality of my Body and knowing  
that it is appointed for all men once to Dye, Do make and ordaine this my  
last Will and Testament in manner and forme following viz:

## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

First and principally I give my Soule to God who gave it and for my Body I Commend it to ye Earth to be buried in Christian and Decent manner as my Executrix hereafter named shall be thought convenient, And as touching such Worldly Estate where with it hath pleased God to blesse mee in this life I give and bequeath ye same in manner and forme following

Imprimus: after all my lawful Debts are paid I give and bequeath to my eldest Son Nathanl Bosworth my owne Dwelling-house and all that Lott it standeth on scittuate lying and being in ye Towne of Hull in ye Massachusetts Colony in ye New England together with ye third of all my other Lands, uplands, meadowlands and Commons at Hull afores'd and allso one third pt of my Land at Pettucks Island, and all that which was mine at Brewsters Island and Slatte' Island and also one third part of all my stock at Hull afores'd that is to say Cattle, Sheep and Swine and Cart tackling as it was put into Johns hand when I came from Hull and further I give unto him one third of ye Well and halph ye malt house. And my Will is that in Division of Lands and Cattle Nathanael shall have five pounds more than either John or Joseph.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son Joseph Bosworth that house that was Nathanaells with all ye Lott it now standeth on scittuate lying and being in Hull afores'd as allso one third part of all my other lands and meadow at Hull afores'd and one third part of my land at Pettucks Island. I allso give and bequeath to him s'd Joseph one third part of my stock that is to say Cattle, Sheep and Swine and Cart tackling as it was put into John, his hand when I came from Hull together with halph ye malt house and one third of ye Well all waise provided that Joseph Doe allow me twenty pounds beside what I now owe him to be Disposed of for my or to pay it his Mother upon her Demand.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son John Bosworth, that Lott which his house standeth upon, he ye s'd John allowing Joseph ten or twelve foot as we did formerly agree to ye Topp of ye Hill for Joseph his enlargement further I give and bequeath to him s'd John one third part of all my other lands whether upland, or meadow or Commons scittuate lying and being in Hull afores'd together with one third part of my lands at Pettucks Island as also one third part of ye Cattle Sheep and Swine and Cart tackling with ye old Barne and Well that is a Third thereof.

*Furthermore* as to my Estate in Bristoll in ye Colony of New Plymo in New England my Will is that Jeremy my Son upon condition that he have ye chief care of his Mother during her life whome I appoint to be my Sole Executrix then he ye s'd Jeremy shall enjoy and possesse my Dwelling House and all my home Lands, uplands and meadows on this side of ye Creek that is to say on ye norwest side thereof excepting what I bequeath to Bellamy hereafter mentioned and allso five Acres of my Ten-Acre Lott now improved that is ye easter most end thereof further my Will is that Jeremy shall have the souther most end of ye Barne with ye Lean-too or Cow house but in ye meantime I give and bequeath to my Deare and Loving Wife whatsoever I have given to Jeremy above with all my moveables within Door and without During her Life.



## SECOND GENERATION

Secondly—I bequeath unto my son Bellamy that Land his house standeth on with ye Garden and Cowyard as it now is and three quarters of an Acre next ye Orchard fence and halph my Ten-acre Lott now improved the Wester most end thereof he allowing Jeremy the use of ye Water if need so require. I allso give and bequeath to Bellamy my son my twenty-acre Lott scittuate lying and being in Bristoll afores'd and joyning to ye Lands of Samuel Gallop to ye north and to ye Land of John Wilkings on ye South, further I give and bequeath to him my son Bellamy, my three-acre Lott scittuate in Bristoll afores'd and lying between Major Church his land and an Highway running East and West nearest together with all my meadow lying on ye south side of ye Creek as allso one third part of Poppysquash Lott and ye rest of ye Commons on ye Neck with ye north end of my Barne but not ye Cow house and my Will is that Jeremy and Bellamy allow Edward toward his building thirty shillings in work apiece.

Thirdly, I give and bequeath to Edward my Son, my Farme scittuate lying and being in Bristoll aforesaid and joyning to ye lands of Benjamin Jones on ye North and to the Lands of William Throup on the south and also that four Acres of meadow lying next Mr. Paines and my Will is that Joseph and Edward buy out Cozen Benjamin Jones and Joseph Jacob which done ye Ten Acres of upland lying before their meadow shall be equally divided between them both.

Fourthly. I give and bequeath to Mary, my Daughter my two Acre Lott of upland scittuate, lying and being in Bristoll afores'd and joyning to the house Lott of Benjamin Jones on ye northside thereof and on ye south to ye lands of Anthony Fry and James Adams.

Fifthly moreover I will that at my wives Decease then out of my Cattle and moveables Mary Lobdell shall have five pounds my Daughter Hannah Jacob six pounds, my Daughter Bridgett seven pounds:

Furthermore my Will is that Sarah Lobdell have one pound and that to John and Nathan'l Lobdell shall be given ten shillings apiece. And hereby I do nominate and apoint John Cary of Bristoll to be assistant to my wife in what concerns ye full filling of this my last Will and Testament which I now Declare to be my last Will and Testament Revoking all other whatever.

Nathan'l Bosworth (sigillum.)

William Throp

John Cary

William Thrope and John Cary being sworne at ye County Court held at Bristoll ye 20th of Novembr Anno Domo 1690 made oath that they were present and saw Nathan'l Bosworth within-mentioned and since Deced Signe, Seale, deliver and declare ye within-written instrum't to be his last Will and Testamen't being of sound mind and perfect memory.

Attests Burton Cler:

Att a County Court at Bristoll ye 20th of November Anno Domo 1690 The within written Will of Nathan'l Bosworth of Bristoll Dece'd was proved, approved and allowed of And Administration of all and singular ye goodes rights and Credits of ye s'd Dece'd was comitted unto Bridget Bosworth Relict of ye s'd Dece'd and sole Executrix in ye s'd Will named

# BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

well and truly to Administer ye same accoring to ye Will of ye Dece'd in Testimony whereof the seale of ye County of Bristoll p'r order of s'd Court is hereunto affixed.

P'r Burton Cler.

NOTE: It should be observed that the four Lobdell grandchildren, children of Nathaniel's eldest daughter, were given in all £7, the same amount as given to his daughter Bridget. The daughter Hannah had only £6.

## The Inventory of the Estate of Decon Bosworth late of Bristoll Now deceased as it was taken by William throp and Benjamin Joans this 3<sup>d</sup> of November 1690

	£	s.	d.
Imprimis: Severall Books prised at . . . . .	02	10	00
for wearing Cloathes of all sorts . . . . .	09	02	00
for Beding and bedsteads . . . . .	09	00	00
for linen of all sorts . . . . .	10	02	06
for pewter and tin uessells . . . . .	03	09	00
for Brass uessells at . . . . .	02	16	00
for Iron uessells and tools . . . . .	02	16	00
for Cart wheels and other tackling . . . . .	01	13	00
for one paire of oxen . . . . .	05	12	00
3 Cows and half a Steer and half a heifer and two Calves and one Steer . . . . .	08	05	00
for Swine small and great . . . . .	03	15	00
for one horse . . . . .	04	00	00
for a Cubbard and Eight Chairs and Seuen Joynt Stooles . . . . .	05	06	00
Wooden uessells and Earthen ware . . . . .	00	19	04
two Chest and one box . . . . .	00	19	00
glass buttles and earthen Jugges two Cheese presses and a wheell . . . . .	00	14	10
a table . . . . .	00	08	00
	71	07	08
the Dwelling house prised at . . . . .	50	0	00
the south end of the barn with the leantto . . . . .	12	0	00
for seuen acars of upland and three acars of meadow at 5 pound per accer . . . . .	50	00	00
	£	s.	
for 5 accars of a ten accar lote at 1..10 . . . . .	07	10	00
	119	10	00





NATHANIEL BOSWORTH'S TOMBSTONE NEAR THE WALL OF  
THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, BRISTOL, R. I.





## SECOND GENERATION

uplands and meadowlands belonging to  
Bellame Bosworth:

one accer of upland by his house and 4	£	s	d
accers of meadow at 5 pd an accer . . . . .	25	00	0
3 accers upland on the south sid of the Creek . . . . .	15	00	00
	£	s	
5 accers of the ten accer lot at 1..10 . . . . .	07	10	0
for two tenn accer lots . . .at 1..00 . . . . .	20	00	00
for a third of a lote at papaquash . . . . .	08	00	00
for the north end of the barn . . . . .	08	00	0
	<hr/>		
	83	10	00

uplands and meadow lands belonging to Edward  
Bosworth vis his two thirds of a farm at

fiften shilings an accar . . . . .	50	05	00
four accers of meadow . . . . .	16	00	0
for on third of a ten accer lote by his meadow . . . . .	02	10	0
	<hr/>		
	68	15	00

Sworn by y<sup>e</sup> Relict Bridget Bosworth 9<sup>br</sup>. 20.90

(NOTE: November was the 9th month in those days.)

An extract from the records of the Cong. Church of  
Bristol, reads:

Name.	How Received.	How Removed.
Nathaniel Bosworth -	May 3, 1687 -	Aug. 31, 1690
Bridget of Nathaniel -	June 12, 1695 -	
Mary - - - - -	June 12, 1695 -	Apr. 21, 1735.

NOTE: The explanation of the above is not easy to give, we can only surmise. From the date of Nathaniel's "removal" we know that this is the Nathaniel about whom we are writing, but knowing that he came to Bristol as early as 1685, and was one of the founders of the church there, we are surprised that the date when "received" into the church should not be earlier than 1687, unless the church was not organized until that time, which is probably the case. We are even more surprised that Bridget and the daughter Mary (we know it to be the daughter from the date of her removal), should not have united with the church before 1695—five years after Nathaniel's death, and he a deacon of the church. It is probable that they were members of the church in Hingham and for some unaccountable reason did not get letters from that church and join in Bristol until the date given. It will be noticed that the date of "removal" of Bridget is left blank. To my knowledge no record of her death has been found.

## CHILDREN

of Nathaniel<sup>2</sup> and Bridget (Bellamy) Bosworth:

- 19 + i—A daughter<sup>3</sup>, b. about 1647; m. John Lobdell, Feb. 21, 1664-5.
- 20 + ii—NATHANIEL<sup>3</sup>, bap. July 29, 1649; m. 1st, Dec. 7, 1670, Elizabeth Morton; 2nd, Mary Morton.
- 21 + iii—JEREMIAH<sup>3</sup>, bap. July 29, 1649; died unmarried, in Bristol, Mar. 20, 1718.
- 22 + iv—HANNAH<sup>3</sup>, b. in Hull, Apr. 30, 1650; bap. July 16, 1650; m. Joseph Jacobs.
- 23 + v—JOSEPH<sup>3</sup>, bap. June 6, 1652; m. 1698, Mrs. Elizabeth (Dorby) Miller.
- 24 + vi—BELLAMY<sup>3</sup>, bap. Nov. 30, 1654; m. at Rehoboth, Mass., Nov. 11, 1685, Mary Smith.
- 25 + vii—JOHN<sup>3</sup>, b. abt. 1656; m. Sarah (———).
- 26 + viii—MARY<sup>3</sup>, bap. Oct. 4, 1657; died unmarried, in Bristol, April 21, 1735, in her 78th year.
- 27 + ix—EDWARD<sup>3</sup>, bap. May 29, 1659; m. 1st, Mary (———); 2nd, Elizabeth (———).
- 28 + x—BRIDGET<sup>3</sup>, bap. Aug. 19, 1660; m. prob. Joseph Phillips.

The children of Nathaniel and Bridget (Bellamy) Bosworth were probably all born in Hull, as that is where they resided until after the births of their children, but it appears the church there was without a pastor, and had only a "ruling elder," so the children were taken to Hingham for baptism, for all except the eldest and the son John were baptized there by the Rev. Peter Hobart, pastor of the church in Hingham. All the early records of Hull having been burned, we have no record of the marriage of Nathaniel and Bridget (which probably occurred about 1645 or 1646, when Nathaniel was 28 or 29 years of age), nor the births of their children, except that of Hannah, so we are fortunate in having the record of their baptisms at Hingham.

NOTE: ——— Bosworth, eldest daughter of Nathaniel Bosworth, and presumably a daughter of his wife, Bridget—as there is not the least evidence to show that Nathaniel ever had another wife—married John Lobdell. Now if—as has been *supposed*—Bridget was the widow of Nicholas Lobdell and the mother of John Lobdell, *the latter married his half-sister*. As this could not very well be, the supposition proves to be an error, and we look about for some suggestion as to what Bridget's maiden name really was. We find that among her children was a son named Bellamy—an unusual given name, presumably a family name; and living in Hull at the same time that the Bosworths were living in Hingham and



## SECOND GENERATION

Hull (places only a few miles apart), we find a man named *Jeremiah Bellamy*, and note that Bridget named another son *Jeremiah*. This seems to us, as well as to many other unbiased persons, sufficient reason for believing that Bridget was a daughter of this Jeremiah Bellamy, although unfortunately, to date, no positive evidence can be found.\*

As to the name of the daughter of Nathaniel and Bridget, who married John Lobdell, we are also in the dark, although there is plenty of evidence that she *was* a daughter. In only one place is her name given, and that is in a footnote in Lincoln's History of Hingham; there it is given "Mary," but without apparently any authority, and as Nathaniel and Bridget had a daughter Mary who never married, but died in Bristol at the age of 78, we believe it to be an error, although it is *possible* that Nathaniel had two daughters by the name of Mary, as there are cases on record where there were two children by the same name in the same family, living at the same time,† but, as before stated, there seems to be no authority for the statement that her name was Mary, and as John Lobdell had two daughters, the eldest named Sarah, the youngest Mercy (or Mary), we prefer to believe that the wife's name was Sarah, but as this is only supposition it remains to be proved, or disproved, if it ever can be.

---

### MARY<sup>3</sup> BOSWORTH

The history of the children of Nathaniel<sup>2</sup> Bosworth, who married, will be given in their proper places. The daughter Mary never married, but lived single to old age. The history of this unmarried daughter of Deacon Nathaniel Bosworth

---

\* William Buckland of Rehoboth, formerly of Hingham, in giving deed to land in Hingham, mentions land he had purchased of "Jerome Bellaime." This was no doubt Jeremiah Bellamy, as we find the name of Jeremiah, son of Nathaniel, sometimes spelled "Jerome." [Suffolk Deeds, Liber IV, p. 132.]

† The case of two children in the same family at the same time, by the same name, though not common even in olden times, was not unknown. A case is told of in the Boston Transcript of Feb. 23, 1926, where in 1622, at Winchester, England, William Avington had two sons named Thomas. Also in this country, a Benjamin Graves of Colchester, Conn., had by his first wife, Mary Sterling, a daughter Mary, baptized in 1704; and by second wife, Mary Haynes, another daughter named Mary, born in 1728. Both lived and married, the first Mary in 1724, the second in 1746. Also Lincoln's History of Hingham tells of a Robert Jones of that place, who had two sons named Benjamin. In his will, after mentioning his son "Benjamin the elder," he later bequeaths "to my son Benjamin Jones the younger." One more case is that of John Woodruff of Southampton, L. I., who in 1670, willed "to my eldest son John Woodruff" and further on "to wife Ann and youngest son John." A note on this in the N. E. Hist. Reg., says: "This, though rare in this country, was not uncommon in England about the time of and previous to the settlement of New England." Hence it may be *possible* that Nathaniel Bosworth had two daughters named Mary; however, I still think the name of the eldest one, who married John Lobdell, was Sarah, and that her daughter Sarah Lobdell was named after her.

is of such interest that it seems to be worthy of a section by itself, although of course she had no direct descendants.

Her baptism at Hingham, Mass., by Rev. Peter Hobart, was recorded as follows:

1657

October 4 Mary daughter of Nathaniel  
Bozworth

She removed with her parents from Hingham to Bristol, R. I., soon after 1680. She taught the first school in that town, held in her father's house, which, as we have seen, is still standing.

She was remembered in her father's will, in 1690, in a bequest reading as follows:

"I give and bequeath to Mary, my Daughter my two Acre Lott of upland scittuate, lying and being in Bristoll a fores'd and joyning to the house Lott of Benjamin Jones on ye northside thereof and on ye south to ye lands of Anthony Fry and James Adams."

Some time previous to Dec. 30, 1707, Mary sold these two acres to Joseph Smith, whose wife, Mary ("Merrey") Smith, Mary Bosworth called her "Kinswoman." For some reason (perhaps on account of relationship), no deed was given, so when in 1709, "Merrey Smith, widow," sold this "house Lott" to Eleazar Cary, of Bristol, Mary made the deed to him. It read as follows:

Mary Bosworth of Bristol, "Daughter of Deacon Nathaniel Bosworth formerly of said Bristol Deceased," for 40 pounds "well and truely paid by Eleazar Cary of Bristol . . . carpenter, unto and for the proper use and benefit of my Kinswoman Merrey Smith widow and Relict of Joseph Smith late of said Bristol Deceased who in his life time and before his death Did bargain for and pay the Purchase of a Certain house Lott Containing two acres of land Scittuate in Bristol aforesd But had no Legall Conveyance thereof from me the sd Mary Bosworth (Therefore for the Consideration of the payment of sd forty pounds unto the sd Merrey the Receipt whereof . . . is acknowledged by the sd Merrey Smith as well as by me the sd Mary Bosworth.)" The bounds given were: "west upon Hope Street north



upon the house lott of Benjamin Jones East on High Street . . . By vertue of the Gift & Bequest of my Hon<sup>d</sup> ffather Deacon Natha<sup>l</sup> Bosworth above mentioned Deceased to me sd Mary Bosworth in his last Will & Testament upon Record bearing date the (15th) day of March Anno Dom 1689 I have good right and Lawful Authority," etc. April 30, 1709, "In the Eighth year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lady Anne by the Grace of God of Great Brittain &c queen"

the mark of

Mary M Bosworth

Acknowledged by

"Mrs." Mary Bosworth, on the same date.\*

(From the fact that Mary was a school teacher, it is probable that she was more favored than most women of those times, and knew how to write her name, so it is rather strange that we find her signing this deed with "her mark.")

In 1718, Eleazar Cary sold this lot to Benjamin Bosworth, Jr., of Bristol, a nephew of Mary's, for £245, describing it as his house lot in Bristol, "Containing two acres . . . (which I purchased of M<sup>rs</sup> Mary Bosworth of said Bristol School Mistress Daughter of Deacon Bosworth sumetime of said Bristol Deceased)" bounded "westward fronting on Hope Street northward on a lot late in the Possession of Mr. Benjamin Jones Deceased, easterly bounded by High Street and southerly partly on land of Col. Paine Esq<sup>r</sup> and partly on the land of Daniel Cary."

Dated May 9, 1718.

Mary Bosworth died in Bristol, April 21, 1735, leaving a will dated March 22, 1734/5, one month before her death, of which the following is a copy.

#### WILL OF MARY BOSWORTH "SCHOOLDAME"

In The Name of God Amen

I Mary Bosworth of Bristol In the County of Bristol in Newengland Schoolmistress on the Twenty Second Day of March in the Year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred & thiry Four/5 In the Eighth year of his Maj<sup>t</sup>. Reign being aged & Infirm of Body but of perfect mind & memory Thanks be Given to God therefor Calling to mind my Mortality & that it is appointed for men once to Dye Do make this my last Will &

\* See chapter on Explanations about the title "Mrs."

## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

testament and first of all I give and Recommend my Soul to God that Gave it and my Body to the Earth to be decently Buried at the Discretion of my Executor hereinafter named hoping for y<sup>e</sup> merit & mediation Sake of Jesus Christ for a pardon of all my sin & a Resurrection to Eternal Life and as to such Worldly Goods as it hath pleased God to Bless me with In this Life I give & Dispose thereof as followeth

Imp<sup>rs</sup> My Will is that my Just Debts & funeral Charges be paid In Convenient time after my Decease

Item I give & Bequeath to my beloved Kinswoman Mercy Hearl the wife of Mr Richard Hearl of Bristol my best Bed with the underbed & Bedstead to it belonging and the Coverlead and a pair of Blankets and a pair of Sheets with the Curtains to it belonging: and my Large Cubbord my Calaminto Gown and my Damask Petticoat

Item I give & bequeath to my beloved Kinswoman Susannah Phillips wife of Joseph Phillips my Trunk my Red & Blew Coverlead a pair of Sheets & a pair of Blankets Two Pillows & Two Pillow Cases my silk Crape Gown & Two flannen Petticoats

Item I give to my beloved Kinswoman Mercy Twing wife of John Twing my wool Bed my new shaloon Black Petticoat and a flannel Petticoat & a pair of Sheets

Item I give to my beloved Kinsman Edward Bosworth of Barrington the Debt he owes me being about six pounds

Item I give to my beloved Kinsman Joseph Phillips of Bristol my Book viz. Carells Exposition on y<sup>e</sup> book of Job

And my Will is that my funerall Charges be paid out of that money that is due me by Bond from Mr. Henry Bragg and the remainder thereof I give & bestow in y<sup>e</sup> following manner viz<sup>t</sup> to my Kinsman Nathaniel Jacobs Ten Pounds and to my Kinsman Nath<sup>ll</sup> Phillips five pounds and the remainder if any there be, to my Kinswoman Mercy Twing afores<sup>d</sup> but if there be not fifteen pounds of that money left after y<sup>e</sup> payment of my funeral Charges then my will is that y<sup>e</sup> Legacy of Ten pounds to s<sup>d</sup> N: Jacobs & five pounds to N. Phillips be lesened in proportion & they to have no more than what is left of s<sup>d</sup> sum as afores<sup>d</sup>

Item I give and bequeath all the rest of my Estate to my s<sup>d</sup> Two Kinswomen Mercy Hearl & Susannah Phillips Equally between them or those that shall Legally represent them: And I do nominate Constitute & appoint my friend Sam<sup>ll</sup> Howland to be executor of this my last will Ratifying & Confirming this & no other to be my last will and Testament As witness my hand & seal hereto sett the Day and year first within written.

Signed Sealed published & Declared  
by Y<sup>e</sup> S<sup>d</sup> Mary Bosworth to be her  
last Will & Testament In  
presence of us Wittnesses

Benj<sup>a</sup> Cary  
William Linzey  
Kizia Linzey

her  
Mary M Bosworth  
mark



# BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

The inventory on her estate was as follows:

Bristol April<sup>ll</sup> the 24:<sup>th</sup> 1735/

An Inventory of the Eastate of Mary Bosworth Late of Bristoll dece<sup>d</sup>  
Taken Upon Oath by us the Subscribers hereof as follows

*Vizt*

To bills of publick Cred <sup>tt</sup> and Coper money and small box..	5	7	3
To a bond Due from Henry Bragg.....	25	..	..
To a bond Due from Edward Bosworth Jun. <sup>r</sup> .....	6	..	..
fether bed under bed Cover Lidd bedsteed Curtaines Valians } and Cord 14 <sup>lb</sup> . .6.0 Joiners worktt Cubbord 1.10.0..... }	15	16	..
Caliminco Gowne and damasktt pettycoatt.....	4	5	0
Trunk 10s./Coverlid 2£/Crape Gowne 1£/5: Woll bed 1£..	4	15	0
Shalone pettycoatt 1£/one book Exposition Upon Jobe 15s..	1	15	0
foure bound books and Seven pamflits.....	..	16	0
Trundle bedsteed and Cord 14s./plaine petticoatt 8s./one Ditto 10s.....	1	12	0
pettycoatt 8s./two Ditt. old 2s./wooling pettycoatt 8s./one Ditt 3s.....	1	1	0
Staies 3s./Two flanin Wastecoats 10s./Striped blankett 1/6..	..	14	6
pockett 1s./three bleu aprons 3s./muff 1s./Girdle 1/6 Shoes 2s.	..	8	6
Stomacher and old wastcoatt 1s./foure paire old stockings 4s..	..	5	0
tow Sheets 1£/two Ditt. Cotton and Linin 3£/one Ditt. 1£-10	5	10	..
new tow Sheett 15s./flanin Shete 15s./one Ditt 10s.....	2	..	..
thre flanin Sheets 3£/one Ditt 1£/two blankets 2£-10.....	6	10	0
two blankets 15s. Coverlid 1£/foure flanin petticoats 1£....	2	15	0
furstaine westcoate 8s./two Ditt. flanin 12s.....	1	..	..
two Cotton and Linin Shifts 1£/one Ditts 15s./headcloath 10s.....	2	5	0
Six yard of flanin Cloath 1£/one fine Shiftt 1£.....	2	..	..
Seven pillow Coats 1£-15/one Ditt. fine 8s./foure hancher- chifs 15s.....	2	18	0
Eleune old Caps and other small head Linen 1£/Eight Towels 12s.....	1	12	..
five napkins 14s./Remnants of Cloath & thre Small bags 5s.	..	19	0
Childs blankett 3s./five fether pilows 3£/one Ditt. wool 3s..	3	6	..
Seuen old chaires 14s. Two Jointstols 8s./two benchis 2s....	1	4	0
necklase and nitingnedles 6s./white apron 4s.....	..	10	..
Chistt 12s./one Ditt. and box 12s./Looking Glass 10s./four baskets 3s.....	1	17	0
Two bromes 1s./two kellers and Can 6s./two water pailles 2/6	..	9	6
Indian meall 3s./two Cask 2s./box 2s./Iron pott & Kettle 14s.	1	1	0
pothooks 2s./Iron doggs 10s./fendor Tongs & fire Shouele 10s.	1	2	0
Tramell and Iron hook 5s./frieing pan 9s. brass Skilett 6s...	1	..	..
morter and pestle 1s./meall bagg 1s. * * * * 5s.....	..	7	..
bed pan 9s./Gridiron 3s./Stone mugg 1/6: pigin 1s.....*	..	13	6

---

\*This doesn't add right, but I have followed the original.

# BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

To Redd Earthen Waire 4/6 Two Iron Candle Stiks 2/6....	7	..
Wooden waire 2s./Cordwood 6s.....	8	..
Saltseller musterd pott Gallapott three vials.....	1	6
beff 17 pn. <sup>d</sup> and Cask 10s./porke 30½ pn. <sup>d</sup> and Cask 1-12-6	2	2 6
partt of a Screen frame.....	4	..
peck 2s./hogs fatt 6/puter 1£-7-0 Six Glass bottls 3s.....	1	18 0
wine Glass 1s./thre Earth <sup>n</sup> Dishes 7/6 brass candellstick 4s..	0	12 6
Tinn Waire 4s./Stone Jugg and pigin 3/ Candles 9s.....	16	0
Spoon and naills 6. <sup>d</sup> Knifes and forks 2s.....	2	6
	114	18 3

The appraises were

Sworn Coram  
N. Blagrove

Sam<sup>ll</sup>. Royall  
Samuel Smith  
Paul Vunis

(The inventory seems to be in the writing of Samuel Royal.)

NOTE: It was my great privilege, in 1905, to copy from the *old, original* records of the town of Bristol, R. I.; *not* the records referred to by Arnold, in Vital Records of R. I. The Town Clerk told me that Mr. Arnold used the *copy*, made many years later than the original. The records which I copied were in little, old, and apparently home-made books. The one which seemed to have the earliest dates was 3½ inches wide and 7¼ inches high, discolored with age, and all in pieces. The first Bosworth record that I found was on what was then the first page, on a leaf entirely loose and crumbling with age, the edges all gone. From the numbering I saw that *nine* of the first leaves were entirely gone. This first Bosworth record was the birth of Bridget, daughter of Bellamy Bosworth, which occurred in 1686, hence I judge that any Bristol records before that time are wholly lost.

The next book is about 4 inches wide and 11½ inches high, as badly discolored as the first, the cover made like the other, of pasteboard covered with a thin skin of some kind, oiled or varnished to resemble leather. This was badly discolored, cracked and broken, several portions wholly gone, and fairly mouldy with age. The first item recorded in this book was dated 1704. In this book I found, beginning at page 10, a list of "Deaths kept by Mr Jo<sup>n</sup> Wight and delivered to the Town Clerk." On this list, at page 13, I found:

Mary Bosworth Schooldame Departed this Life Aprill ye  
21st aged 78 years.

At the bottom of page 105 of this book is written:

"Wee Know where wee are Born But who Knows where or when  
wee Shall Dy"(!)

Another book, which seemed to contain only records of deaths, was made up of two small books of different size, without any covers, just pieces of writing paper sewed together, one attached to the other. The smaller part began with

Deaths in Bristol 1729



## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

Under the heading 1735, I found:

Ap:

21 Mrs. Mary Bosworth Etatis 79

Now it will be noted that in one of these records Mary's age is given as 78 and in the other 79, when the fact is, unless she was over a year old when she was baptized, she was only in the 78th year of her age.

---

And now I come to what is to me the most interesting part of all concerning Mary's history, and that is the question as to how the numerous "Kinswomen" and "Kinsmen" mentioned in Mary's will were related to her. A few years ago I spent a good deal of time in the investigation of this problem, in which I was ably assisted by William H. Manning, a genealogist living near Boston, who was kind enough to help me, without remuneration, by searching for the data needed, to be found in the records at Boston, also giving me his conclusions in the matter.

The first of these persons is "my beloved Kinswoman Mercy Hearl the wife of M<sup>r</sup> Richard Hearl of Bristol." The conclusion we came to in this case was, that this was Mercy (or Mary, these names seem to have been used interchangeably at that time) Lobdell, Mary's niece, the youngest daughter of her eldest sister (probably named either Mary or Sarah), who married John Lobdell. She probably married first Joseph Smith, who died in Bristol, Dec. 30, 1707. They had at least one son, Joseph Smith, born in Bristol, Oct. 25, 1707, a short time previous to her husband's death. Mary Smith was a widow in 1709 when Mary Bosworth made out the deed to Eleazar Cary of the two acres of land Joseph Smith had bought of her, and in this deed she calls Mary ("Merrey") Smith her "Kinswoman." She probably married second, Richard Herle (Hearl), and still lived in Bristol, where both died; Richard Herle, March 3, 1742; and "Mrs. Mary Herle, April 23, 1757, aged 85 yrs." This shows that she was born in 1672, and as the second wife of John Lobdell died in 1673, Mary must have been the youngest of their four children. That is, if the above is correct.

The second of the persons mentioned was "my beloved Kinswoman Susannah Phillips the wife of Joseph Phillips."

The conclusion we came to was, that Bridget Bosworth, Mary's youngest sister, married Elder Joseph Phillips of Boston, about 1683. He certainly had a wife named Bridget, and as persons named Phillips were related to Mary, and as her sister Bridget, having been baptized at Hingham, Aug. 19, 1660, would have been the right age to be married in 1683, it seems safe to conclude she was the one. They had at least three children:

Joseph, b. May 7, 1684; m. June 22, 1710, Susannah King  
 Benjamin, b. Oct. 18, 1685; m. Mar. 25, 1714, Hannah  
 Henderson  
 Nathaniel, b. Mar. 30, 1689

Here we have three names found in Mary's will, viz.: Susannah, wife of Joseph Phillips; Joseph Phillips (probably the son); and Nathaniel Phillips; each called "Kinswoman" or "Kinsman." Another thing that indicates relationship to the family, is the fact that when Nathaniel Bosworth, Jr., son of Deacon Nathaniel, died in Hull in 1693, and Mary, his widow, was administratrix on his estate, Joseph Phillips of Boston was one of her bondsmen. From the fact that Deacon Nathaniel in his will made in 1690 calls this daughter simply "Bridget," it may be thought by some that she could not have been married at that time, but students of genealogy know that this is no proof that such was the case, and the above surely points strongly to the surmise that she was the wife of Joseph Phillips at that time. Some time later than 1693, the son Joseph, with wife Susannah, removed to Bristol, R. I., where Joseph died, leaving a will dated, June 8, 1749, in which he bequeathed "to loving wife Susanna," and to sons Joseph, Michael and John, also to grandson Daniel Kelly, "son of my daughter Bridget Dec<sup>d</sup>," and to granddaughter Mary Kelly. The son Michael Phillips married in 1736, Bridget, daughter of Capt. Nathaniel<sup>4</sup> Bosworth, son of Bellamy<sup>3</sup>, Mary's brother.

The next person to receive attention is the one called by Mary, "my beloved Kinswoman Mercy Twing wife of John Twing." According to the Thwing (Twing) Genealogy, this John was son of John<sup>3</sup> (*John*<sup>2</sup>, *Benjamin*<sup>1</sup>) Thwing, who was born in Boston, June 2, 1693, settled in the part of Mendon,



## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

Mass., that is now Milford, "where he was a highly important citizen," and married in June, 1718, Mercy Jones of Mendon, third daughter of Elder John Jones and wife Sarah. Elder John Jones was son of Abraham<sup>2</sup> (*Thomas*<sup>1</sup>) Jones, born about 1669 or 1670, and married about 1693, Sarah (——). We came to the conclusion that this wife was Sarah Lobdell, granddaughter of Deacon Nathaniel Bosworth, named in his will, a niece of Mary's. The names of her children would indicate this. Their names were:

- i—Sarah, b. Oct. 20, 1694; m. Daniel Corbett.
- ii—Bridget, b. July 8, 1696; m. James Wood.
- iii—Mercy, b. Sept. 3, 1697; m. *John Thwing*.
- iv—John, b. Sept. 27, 1699; settled in Bellingham.
- v—Nathaniel, b. Mar. 31, 1702; said to have m. Priscilla Corbett.
- vi—Lydia, b. Sept. 17, 1705; m. Jonathan Whitney.
- vii—Abraham, b. July 2, 1708; said to have m. Kezia Whitney.
- viii—Joseph, b. Dec. 27, 1709; said to have m. Mary Whitney.

The first, Sarah, being named after herself; the second, Bridget, after her grandmother who brought her up (if she is the Sarah that we suppose); the third, Mercy, born in Hull, Sept. 3, 1697, after her sister, Mercy (Lobdell) (Smith) Herle (Mercy Jones married John Thwing, and both these Mercys are named in Mary Bosworth's will); the fourth was a son named from the father; the fifth, Nathaniel, after her grandfather. There were three others, named Lydia, Abraham and Joseph; the last two being Jones names, and perhaps Lydia may have been. The Abraham<sup>2</sup> Jones, of Hull, married Sarah Whitman, daughter of Rev. Z. Whitman, pastor of the church at Hull, whose name has already appeared in this book.

The next person mentioned by Mary was "my beloved Kinsman Edward Bosworth of Barrington." Edward was Mary's nephew, a son of her brother John<sup>3</sup> Bosworth, formerly of Hull, now of Bristol.

The only other person mentioned in Mary's will, beside Joseph and Nathaniel Phillips (who—if above surmise is

## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

correct—were both nephews of Mary, sons of her sister Bridget), was Nathaniel Jacobs, who was also a nephew, son of her sister Hannah who married Joseph Jacobs.

This concludes the names of “Kinswomen” and “Kinsmen” found in Mary’s will.

NOTE: No doubt some who read the above will say, “This is all surmise, why publish it?” I do so because I believe it is the correct solution of the problem, and in any case it gives a foundation for further research by descendants of the persons, who may be interested.



## BOSWORTH GENEALOGY

As it may be of interest to readers to see just how the records of baptisms kept by Rev. Peter Hobart at Hingham are placed, a representation is given below. Of course, other names came between these; I copied only the Bosworths.

### HINGHAM RECORDS

1638		
<i>November 18</i>	Elizabeth Bozworth Baptized	
1641		
<i>February</i>	Rebekah daughter of Jonathan Bozworth Baptized	
1644		
<i>January</i>	Bethiah Bozworth Baptized	
1647		
<i>April 6</i>	Benjamin and Mehitable Bozworth Baptized	
<i>18</i>	Mary Bozworth Baptized	
1648		
<i>May 18</i>	widow Bozworth died	
1649		
<i>July 29</i>	Nathaniel and Jeremiah Bozworth Baptized	
1650		
<i>July 16</i>	Hannah Bozworth	do
<i>Aug 4</i>	Deliverance Bozworth	do
1652		
<i>June</i>	Joseph Bozworth Baptized	
1654		
<i>Nov 19</i>	Bellamy Bozworth	(nothing more)
1657		
<i>October 4</i>	Mary daughter of Nathaniel Bozworth	
1659		
<i>May 29</i>	Edward Bozworth Baptized	

1660

*Aug 19*

Bridget Bozworth Baptized

1668

*Aug 9*Hannah Bozworth daughter of  
Benjamin Bozworth born (Benjamin, Jr.)

---

As may be seen, there is nothing except in two cases, to show who were the fathers of these children; this has had to be gathered from other sources. Fortunately, these were sufficient to settle the matter except in the case of Joseph, as both Jonathan and Nathaniel had sons by this name. However, I should judge this one was son of Nathaniel, as he fits into that family the best.

William H. Manning, a professional genealogist of Boston, very thorough and reliable, says that many pastors "were not careful to record all the children that they baptized." So it may be possible that Rev. Peter Hobart was sometimes neglectful, and that Jonathan's son Joseph and daughter Bathsheba, and Nathaniel's eldest daughter and son John, may have been baptized by him, but not recorded.



Additions and Corrections  
as of January 31, 1959

There is evidence that brothers of Henry P. Smith were associated with him in his various mercantile and lumbering enterprises. Known to have worked with him were Daniel, Platt, Sidney, Philo, Fred, and Joseph P., as well as nephews Charles and Isaac N. There has been no attempt to insert this information in the proper places in the text.

Records indicate that Henry P. Smith was in partnership or in some other form of contractual relationship with others during his years in business. Included among these were L. H. Nichols, Norman J. Bloomfield, Asa Ransom, Luther Westover, Robert H. Stevens, and probably others. His final partnership was with his three sons.

-----

pp. 20, 176, and 244 (Add) The date of the first meeting of the town of Tonawanda was April 4, 1837. At this meeting Henry P. Smith served as Clerk and was chosen "Comm'r of Common Schools". Benjamin Long was Chairman of the Board of Inspectors and was chosen one of the Overseers of the Poor. Daniel Smith (#6) was chosen a Justice of the Peace.

p. 20 (Add) A letter dated Jan. 12, 1830 from D. Smith of Niagara Falls to Henry P. Smith of Tonawanda stated that D(aniel) was interested in going into the mercantile and grocery business with Henry (then aged not quite 19), providing they could make arrangements about deferring the first payment until September. Whether or not this was carried through at this time is not clear, but on Jan. 11, 1836 they were in business together in Tonawanda and Henry wrote to Daniel that Uriel Driggs had offered to sell them for \$1280 the lot and building where they were then doing business. They bought this on Feb. 30(sic), 1836. (See p.20)

pp. 21, 26, and 224-5 (Add) From business letters it seems clear that the financial troubles of 1837 and earlier for Henry P. Smith were not cleared in 1837 by the assignment of their property by Daniel and Henry P. In August 1841 the 2nd Federal Bankruptcy Law became effective and Henry evidently took advantage of it to straighten out his affairs. On March 7, 1842 he was declared bankrupt and on July 9, 1842 was declared "discharged of his debts".

p. 37 (Add) In 1854 Henry P. Smith visited his wife's relatives in Lancaster Co., Pa., as revealed in a letter to him from Jacob Sandoe, probably a first cousin of Christiana's.

p. 47 (Correction) The address in North Tonawanda for Christiana (Long) Smith was 52 Christiana St., not 53.

p. 53 (Add) #(12)1411 and 2 Charles Pennypacker (6) Smith, Jr., was in 1959 Lieutenant, Jr. Grade, U. S. Navy, same ship, based at San Francisco. His sister, Margaret Cornelia (6) Smith, was in 1958-9 a freshman at Whitworth College, Spokane, Washington.

(Add) #(12)145 David Guest (5) Smith in 1958-9 was an Air Cadet at Spence Field, Moultrie, Ga.

p. 55 (Add) #(12)1613 Ronald Burke (6) Smith was b. Jan. 17, 1959 in Thomasville, Ga., to Edwin T. (5) and Winn Smith.

(Add) The engagement of #(12)162, Katherine Ethel (5) Smith to James William Reid, Jr., was announced Dec. 31, 1958, the marriage to take place in late summer. Katherine was graduated in June 1958 from Mary Baldwin College and in 1958-9 was a teacher in Thomasville. James expected to complete his pre-medical training in Davidson College at Davidson, N. C., in June 1959 and to enter medical school in the fall of 1959.

p. 59 (Add) #(12)3212, Philip Taylor (6) Smith, was married on June 21, 1958 in Ferstenfeldbruck, Germany, to Julie McClurg Magavern of Hamburg, N. Y., b. Aug. 7, 1936 in Buffalo, N. Y.; graduate of the Buffalo Seminary and in 1958 of Skidmore College. Res.: Siegenburg, Landweis Kelheim, Germany.

p. 61 (Add) #(12)3223 Robin Doria Kelley was born in Puerto Rico on January 17, 1959 to Daniel and Joan (MacKenzie) Kelley.

p. 69 (Add) #(12)44 Howard Freeman (4) Smith died from a stroke on Dec. 18, 1958.

p. 71 (Correction) The 1959 address of Mary (Parker) Smith is 130 Culver Road, Essexville, Michigan.

(Add) #(12)4522 Peter Smith Frantz was born June 3, 1958 in Saginaw, Mich., to Peter B. and Suzanne (Smith) Frantz.

(Add) #(12)4535 Eleanor Atalaya Leon was b. Oct. 26, 1957 in Bay City, Mich., to Fernando S. and Eleanor (Smith) Leon.

p. 74 (Add) #(12)52 Mabel (Kean) Schmeck, wife of Eugene H. Schmeck, died Nov. 9, 1958 in Niagara Falls, N. Y.

p. 78 (Add) The two pictures on this page should have been marked with the names of Harold M. Schmeck and M. Frances Schmeck.

p. 79 (Correction) #(12)7 The date of death for Kate Sweeney (Smith) Hathaway was July 29, 1925, not 1909.

p. 82 (Correction) #(12)7121 The date of birth for Philip Benham Case, Jr. was 1948, not 1958.

p. 84 (Add) #(12)732 Mary Patricia Hathaway was married April 14, 1958 in Easton, Md., to David Gabay, b. May 24, 1931 in Istanbul, Turkey; graduate of the English University in Istanbul and in 1958-9 a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania. Res.: 512 S. 41st St., Philadelphia, Pa.

p. 87 (Correction) #(12)91 The date of graduation from Rutgers University for Marshall Fales was 1906, not 1905.

p. 88 (Correction and addition) #(12)911 The address for Madeleine (Fales) Hand is 295 Myrtle Street, not 111. Her daughter, Prudence Hand, was in 1958-9 a freshman at the Univ. of New Hamp.

(Add) #(12)9123 The name of the son of Henry M. Fales III is Henry Richard Fales.

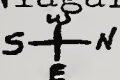
(Correction) #(12)921 The name of the elder son of Eugene W. Fales is Warren, not Eugene Warren, Jr.



p. 90 (Add) #(12)922 Philippe B. Fales was married Sept. 4, 1957 in Lake Forest, Ill., to Judith MacDonnell Seeley, b. Nov. 30, 1937 in Kenilworth, Ill. Their daughter, Ellen MacDonnell Fales (#(12)9221) was b. Aug. 25, 1958 in Salina, Kansas. (This both corrects and adds to note on p. 261, also)

p. 92 (Add) Through the cooperation of Eugene H. Schmeck two more pictures are available, taken July 4, 1892 at the Brick House in LaSalle. One shows the front of the house with Christiana L. Smith and her six children. The other is an enlargement of that section of the larger picture which contains the seven people. Copies of either picture, size about 5" x 7", may be obtained @ 55¢ each from Georgiana H. Randall. One might well be mounted on this blank page.

p. 177 (Add) The executors of the will of Benjamin Long were his son, Benjamin H. Long, and a son-in-law, Henry P. Smith.

p. 200 (Correction) Directions on this map are inaccurate. At this point the Niagara River flows from east to west. Directions should be 

p. 220 (Add) Our very meager information about Julia (2) (Smith) Schuyler and her family has been amplified somewhat by references to them in the letters of her brothers and by a letter from Julia to Henry P. Smith dated Jan. 16, 1860. In 1841 Julia and her family were living in or near Girard, Pa., where her husband had built a mill. The 1860 letter indicates that Julia had just returned to her home from a visit with her brothers in Niagara Co., N. Y., and was then living "so far from all of you", probably in Wisconsin altho no location was given. The following, named in her letter, were probably her children: Julia, Nehemiah, Mary, and Fred. The reference to "Aunt Julia" on p. 39 seems to indicate that Julia made another visit to Niagara Co. in 1862. It is doubtful that she lived in Lockport just before her death.

p. 225 (Add) #6 Daniel (2) Smith was living in Girard, Pa., in 1841 and so were his brother Fred and sister Julia and their families. Daniel or Fred had a still there.

See Note above on Additions to pp. 21 and 26 for report on the Bankruptcy Law. Daniel wrote Henry P. Aug. 27, 1841 and again Dec. 7, 1841 indicating his interest in taking advantage of this new law. He said that he had thrown away four of the best years of his life and was determined to get clear of debt. June 8, 1842 he wrote that he expected to get through with his bankruptcy proceedings in August. He said that his health was broken. By Jan. 5, 1845 he was in Ann Arbor, Mich., where he was buying and selling leather.

Jan. 7, 1853 he wrote Henry P. from Pittsfield, letter postmarked Saline, Mich. He had bought a 110 A. farm, three miles west of Saline, and only six miles from where they had been living earlier. By June 30, 1854 he had traded farms and now had 50 A. more. On Nov. 5, 1855 he gave his address as Oakville P. O., Monroe Co., Mich. He was in Augusta, Mich.

p. 237 (Add) #863 Wirt Jordan (4) Smith died March 3, 1958 in Detroit, Mich.

(Add) #86313 Philip Roger (6) Smith was b. April 19, 1958 in Lancaster, New Hampshire to Curtis W. (5) and Rosemary Smith.

p. 242 (Add) #91351 Richard Dengler Snyder was married June 4, 1958 to Mrs. Barbara Candace Keogh, b. Feb. 2, 1930.

p. 244 (Add) #917 Sidney Litchfield was b. about 1874 and d. Feb. 12, 1958, ae 83.

p. 247 (Add) In June 1841 Fred (#(11)), was in Girard, Pa., as was his brother Daniel. In 1845 Fred had a distillery there.

In Nov. 1853 Daniel wrote to Henry P. that Fred, in Oct. had stopped at Nehemiah P. Smith's home in Michigan "bound for the Mississippi for another speculation of some kind. When will he find that he cannot do business only at a loss?"

On Dec. 3, 1853 Joseph P. Smith (our #(14)) agreed to give his brother Fred \$500 to finance his move to California and his venture into mining. In six months Fred was to send to Joseph one-third of his earnings from mining. As reported here, Fred died a few days after landing in San Francisco.

Fred and his family went to California on the steamer Brother Jonathan. John P. Smith (our # 7) wrote to Henry P. on March 31, 1854 that Fred had \$310 when he died, but all but \$44 had been spent to pay bills for the care of Fred and his sick and dying family before John reached San Francisco to take charge and there were still bills to be paid. Frederick and his wife and one child died there at Hillman's Temperance House.

p. 256 Nathaniel Gott (3) Smith died in his own home, not in the Soldier's Home. His youngest son, George W. N. G. (4) Smith was living in 1959 at 1513 Diamond St., N. E., Grand Rapids, Mich. Nathaniel's son Arthur (4) had a son Darrell (5) Smith living in California in 1958.

#### Additions to Index

p. 264 Fales: Ellen MacDonnell	p. 90
Henry Richard	p. 88
Warren	p. 88 (in place of Eugene
Warren, Jr.)	
p. 265 Frantz: Peter Smith	p. 71
Gabay: David	p. 84
p. 267 Kelley: Robin Doria	p. 61
Keogh: Barbara Candace	p. 242
p. 268 Magavern: Julie McClurg	p. 59
p. 270 Schuyler: Fred, Julia, Mary, and Nehemiah	p. 220
p. 271 Smith: Darrell	p. 256
Philip Roger	p. 237
Ronald Burke	p. 55









